



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Monday is the new Friday! Apologies for our newsletter once again not being sent until Monday. This week, I was out at the wonderful Young Voices event with our incredible children last Friday, so was unable to write the newsletter in time to go out before today.

Our children were an absolute credit to themselves and the school. I was incredibly proud of how they all shone, on what a very long but enjoyable day. Thank you to all of our parents who came along to support the children – I hope you all enjoyed it (even though it appears your seats were about as far away as was possible!). Thank you also to Mr Lutton and the staff who gave up their time to make sure our children could attend.



Swimming Pool:

We are excitedly looking forward to our swimming pool arriving ready for children to use when we return from half-term. Please look out for details in your emails over the coming day or so.



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Owls:

Owl Class have had a fantastic week of learning. In English, we are finishing our final piece of writing, creating tense and spooky threat narratives using some excellent vocabulary. In Maths, the Year 3s completed their review of measuring length – great effort from everyone. In History, we learned about hillforts and how people in the Bronze Age protected themselves, and we even made our own hillforts. We are all very excited and looking forward to our trip next Wednesday. In Computing, we created some amazing algorithms in preparation for making our final project on Tuesday. In Spanish, we have been making our own winter clothes and learning the related vocabulary.

Peregrines:

Peregrines have had another fantastic week. In Art, the children have completed their final pieces inspired by the Sutton Hoo Helmet, carefully drawing and carving impressive designs that show real attention to detail. They can't wait to use the carvings to print. In English, they began publishing their *Outsider Narratives*, sharing thoughtful and imaginative writing with a clear sense of voice and atmosphere. Our Geography learning focused on how human and natural activities affect habitats, prompting some excellent discussion and reflection. Meanwhile, in PE, the class continued to develop teamwork, agility and resilience while playing competitive games of dodgeball. Well done, Peregrines, for another focused and enthusiastic week of learning!



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Buzzards:

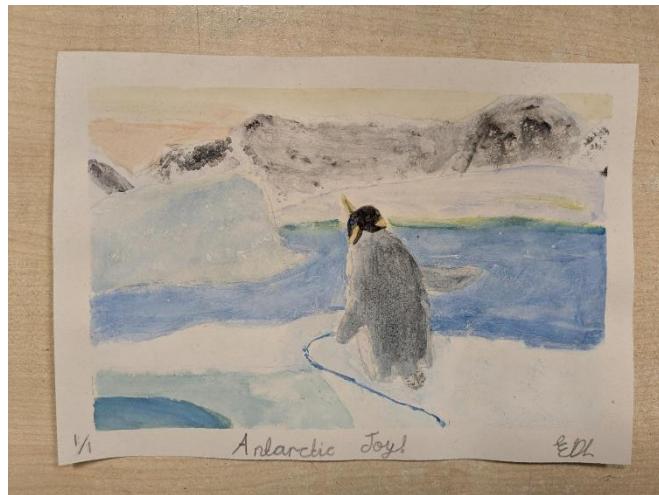
Another wonderful week in Buzzard class. We've been working hard on our reading this week and we're enjoying our guided reading text. It's a compilation of true survival stories and we loved reading about two friends who crossed the Berlin Wall in a hot air balloon! Maths has been important this week for future bargain hunters: we've been learning all about how to calculate percentages and more importantly, how to calculate discounted prices!

In other news, we really enjoyed learning about Carl Linnaeus in Science this week. His classification system seemed super complicated at first but we got the hang of it. We had lots of fun trying to pronounce Latin names for different species and some children even completed some research of their own, finding out what the scientific name is for their favourite animals!

In Art, we've been finishing off our Antarctic landscapes and they are so beautiful. We decided our paintings looked so professional that we'd better sign them!



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Kestrels:

Another joyful and creative week has flown by in Kestrels. Just one more week to go before a well-deserved rest!

Our writing this week has been inspired by the story Clive Penguin, and the children have taken this inspiration and made it completely their own. We are busy writing our very own versions, this time about a polar bear who doesn't like the cold! The ideas, language and enthusiasm for writing have been incredible, and we have been blown away by the children's phonics, letter formation and genuine want to write. Watch this space for our beautiful finished books, written entirely by the children themselves.

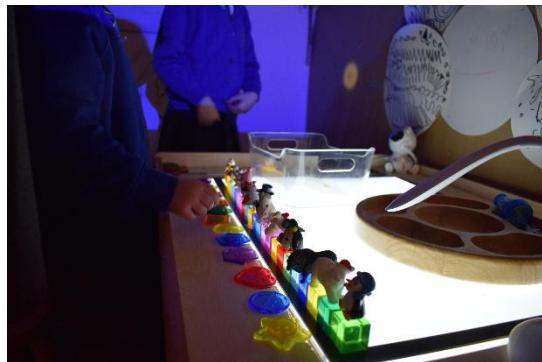
Linked to our book, we have also been exploring the magic of the Northern Lights. The light area has been glowing with colour, and painting on tinfoil has been a wonderful sensory experience. Such gorgeous language has been observed in the provision!

We love our new Lego table in the classroom - which has already inspired a new way of building... Lego lying on our backs! The creativity and problem-solving we see through construction play is always fun, but this has been particularly fabulous!

In Maths, we have been playing lots of track games to strengthen our number skills, and we've been exploring parts of numbers and even writing our own addition sentences. The confidence and pride the children show when explaining their thinking is just lovely to see.

Another wonderful week with the best little team! ❤

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Sparrowhawks:

Sparrowhawks have been developing their knowledge of the Rainforest this week, thinking about which animals live in the different layers and why they make that area their home.

In Science we have been learning more about our bodies and the bones and skeleton inside them.

In computing we have been continuing our skills using the paintz app, exploring the different shape tools to create Matisse's snail.



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We are really proud of our Rainforest pictures based on the work of Henri Rousseau. We have built up layers of marker pen, pastel, ink, tissue and newspaper textures printing and step by step drawings!



Attendance:

Please be reminded that if your child is ill and will be off school, to ring or email the school before 9am. We have a safeguarding duty of care to chase up any absence that we have not been made aware of.

We have a small number of children where their attendance has dipped towards 90%. I will be writing to the parents of these children over the coming week to invite them in for a meeting. Please do not be alarmed if you get a letter, as all meetings are supportive and are aimed at helping children to be in school, when they should be to reach their full potential.

Class	This week's attendance	Cumulative attendance for the year
Kestrel	93.48%	96.85%
Sparrowhawk	88.06%	94.73%
Owl	98.62%	97.14%
Peregrine	96.79%	97.59%
Buzzard	95.22%	96.32%
Whole school	94.33%	96.49%

Celebration Assembly:



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Kestrel – Isaac & Xander
Sparrowhawk – Harry
Owl – Benji & Bea
Peregrine – Alexander & William
Buzzard – Ffion & Esther

Mr Bell