



## *Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter*

Welcome to another weekly newsletter. The weeks really do seem to be flying by, with every day currently packed full of learning and exciting activities across school. This week's highlight was undoubtedly World Book Day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and the day was filled with a range of fun activities centred around reading and celebrating our favourite books.

Over the past few weeks, we have also been putting the finishing touches on improvements to "The Gallery", transforming it into a more inviting and accessible reading space for our children. The aim is to inspire them to read more and continue developing a lifelong love of books. Thank you to everyone who has supported this project, especially our Ashton Hayes Primary School PTFA, who kindly funded new furniture and beautiful window décor. These additions have helped make the space feel more private and far less distracting for the children.

A special mention must go to Miss Davison, who has worked tirelessly over the past few weeks organising our books and creating beautiful labels for the collections. Thank you also to our Year 6 pupils, who helped sort and organise the books into different categories. It really has been a wonderful Ashton Hayes team effort.

Thank you as well to all the parents who attended Parents' Evening. It was lovely to see such a great turnout. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look through your children's work and found the discussions helpful and informative.

Finally, a huge thank you to Amy Whitmore, who single-handedly organised the sponsorship, design and ordering of a brand-new football kit for our Lower Key Stage 2 team. The children wore their new kit with great pride during their match on Friday (photos to follow) and will have many more opportunities to represent the school in upcoming fixtures and tournaments. We are also incredibly grateful to Above Zero Architecture, and especially Edd, for generously sponsoring the kit.

If anyone knows a company that would like to sponsor a kit for our upper Key Stage 2 children, please get in touch.

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## **Owls:**

What a wonderful week we have had! We really enjoyed celebrating reading and books during World Book Day. It was lovely to see the excitement and enthusiasm for stories and characters across the class.

In English, we have been focusing on speech. The children took part in drama and role-play activities to help them understand how characters speak and what they might say. The teamwork during these activities was brilliant, and it was fantastic to see everyone working together and bringing the characters to life. In Maths, we have been very proud of our Year 3s and how hard they have worked during our measuring topic. They have completed their review on capacity and volume and have now started their revision. Their effort and determination have been wonderful to see.

In Geography, we learned about how deserts are formed and explored some of their physical features, including salt basins. The class showed great curiosity and asked some excellent questions during our discussions. In Art, the children continued their project on Stone Age paintings. They focused on developing their charcoal techniques, experimenting with shading and texture to create their own cave-style artwork.

## **Peregrines:**

This week in Peregrines has been full of enthusiasm, creativity and excellent learning across the curriculum.

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day, with the children arriving in a wonderful range of costumes inspired by their favourite characters. Throughout the day they took part in a variety of reading-themed activities, exploring new books and celebrating the joy of reading together.

In PSHCE, the class had thoughtful discussions about stereotypes, considering how assumptions can affect the way people are treated and why it is important to challenge them.

During English, the class began gathering information about a Norse monster in preparation for writing their own information guides. They showed great curiosity while researching and are already developing some exciting ideas for their writing.

In Geography, Peregrines started learning about land use in rural and urban areas, exploring how different spaces are used and why.



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Finally, in PE, the class threw themselves into Samba dancing, showing fantastic energy, rhythm and teamwork. It was wonderful to see everyone joining in with such enthusiasm! Well done to all of Peregrines for another brilliant week of learning.

### **Buzzards:**

Buzzards have worked super hard this week on their assessments - it's been lovely to see just how much progress they've all made and to share how amazingly they're all doing at Parents' Evening. I don't think SATs practise was the highlight of the week though... the highlight was definitely World Book Day. It was our Year 6's last ever World Book Day at Ashton and they pulled out all the stops - their costumes were amazing! It was a brilliant day filled with creativity, fun with friends, a spot of buddy reading and of course books! We spent the morning making our own books and I was blown away by how much time and care the children took over their creations; we've had stories, picture books, comic books, spell books - you name it! Speaking of books, I'd like to say a huge thank you to our Year 6 children who have helped me to organise our school library - they worked beautifully as a team to select the best books and to sort them into themes. We now have lovely reading spaces where all of the children in our school can find books they will like more easily. We've continued to learn about rivers in Geography this week, focussing on flooding. Unfortunately - not due to flooding but due to very high winds - our outdoor learning day at Quarry Bank had to be cancelled. We look forward to visiting soon when we are able to.





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## **Kestrels:**

Kestrels have been having a wonderful time in class and continue to amaze us every day. The children have especially enjoyed making the most of their newly updated outdoor area, where they have been busy exploring, building, creating and developing their confidence through play. It has been fantastic to see their imagination and teamwork shine as they learn both indoors and outdoors.

Kestrels have also loved spending time exploring in the forest, where they have been discovering nature, developing their curiosity and enjoying plenty of adventurous learning opportunities. These experiences help the children build independence, problem-solving skills and a love of the natural world.

In the classroom, the children are doing incredibly well in Drawing Club, where stories and characters inspire them to draw, talk and begin writing their own ideas. The progress the children are making is truly stunning, and it is wonderful to see their confidence growing as they experiment with mark-making, letters and early writing.

Well done Kestrels for your enthusiasm, curiosity and fantastic progress!

## **Forest School:**

Our woods are gorgeous at the moment, we all love spring up there, daffodils everywhere, plus blossom and trees are starting to green up.

Each class have an ongoing project at the moment; so are busy finishing off in preparation for outdoor learning week starting on 23rd.



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I hope all the mums enjoyed their daffodils and have a lovely Mother's Day.

## **Sparrowhawks:**

Sparrowhawks have had a fantastic few weeks and have settled brilliantly, even while Mrs Cuthbert has been away. The children have shown great maturity, enthusiasm and excellent behaviour, making the whole team very proud. Mrs Booth has loved teaching the class and has been so impressed with how hard everyone has been working.

One of the highlights of last was our wonderful trip to the World Museum Liverpool. The children had an amazing time exploring the exhibits and discovering lots of fascinating facts. They represented both themselves and the school brilliantly throughout the visit and should feel very proud of how well they behaved.

Back in the classroom, learning has been just as exciting.

Year 1 have been exploring measurement in maths, using different tools to measure length and compare sizes.

Year 2 have been fully engaged in their learning on multiplication and division, showing great focus and determination as they build their understanding.

Well done Sparrowhawks – keep up the fantastic work!



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## **Attendance:**

A brilliant week for attendance, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week running. This week all classes exceeded our target for the year of 96.7%, with Buzzards hitting an amazing 100% - thank you everyone!

<b>Class</b>	<b>This week's attendance</b>	<b>Cumulative attendance for the year</b>
Kestrel	98.99%	96.93%
Sparrowhawk	97.85%	94.78%
Owl	97.41%	97.06%
Peregrine	99.6%	97.53%
Buzzard	100%	96.49%
Whole school	98.71%	96.51%

**Mr Bell**