



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Once again, we have had a wonderful learning packed week at school. There have been educational visits to Quarry Bank Mill and Jodrell Bank, as well as some inspired learning in the forest – as we have had our outdoor learning week, for most classes, this week. The week has been filled by magic moments that make it an absolute pleasure to be the headteacher of our school.

In this week's newsletter, I have included a new monthly online safety newsletter appendix (as a separate newsletter). This is written for parents to help you support your child to be safe when online at home. Each monthly newsletter will include details of different aspects of keeping safe, including topics that are in the news currently – I hope that you find it useful.

A reminder from our office: please check your child's school meal accounts and trips and clear any outstanding amounts, as this will help us as we approach the end of the financial year.

Owls:

Owl Class have had such a fantastic and productive week, and I'm really proud of everything they've achieved. In English, we've now finished our final piece of writing – a fable narrative inspired by our characters, Fox and Magpie – and they are absolutely amazing. The children have put so much thought and creativity into their work, and it really shows.

In Maths, the Year 3s have worked incredibly hard and have now completed all of their mid-year assessments. I've been so impressed with their resilience, concentration and the pride they've taken in their work – they've approached everything with such a positive attitude.

In Geography, we've been learning about how deserts are used, including natural resources, energy and even testing aircraft. The children then created mind maps to show everything they've learnt, and it was great to see how much they could remember. In RE, we explored the parable of the mustard seed and had some thoughtful discussions about its meaning.

In PSHE, we focused on what it means to be a good listener and communicator, and the children really enjoyed taking part in role-play activities. In DT, we had lots of fun decorating and painting our egg boxes, getting them ready to turn into pneumatic animals. Finally, in Science, we recapped our learning on magnets and forces with a quiz, and it was brilliant to see how much knowledge they have retained.

Peregrines:

This week, Peregrines have had a fantastic week of learning! In DT, the children have begun creating their pop-up books, carefully selecting and using a range of different mechanisms



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to bring their ideas to life. In English, we have started writing our information guides on how to defeat Norse monsters. The pupils have shown great creativity, using technical vocabulary and focusing on the writers knowledge needed to make it a great piece of writing. In Geography, the class have been researching how land use has changed over time in different cities across the UK. They have developed their understanding of how places evolve and the reasons behind these changes. We also had a fantastic Outdoor Learning Day on Tuesday with Mrs Mochrie. The children applied their knowledge of mechanisms to design and build squirrel lifts showing excellent teamwork and ingenuity. In the afternoon, they took part in a fun and energetic Hobby Horse Olympics, which brought lots of smiles and laughter to the day. Well done, Peregrines, for another brilliant week of learning!

Buzzards:

It has been a fantastic and productive period in Buzzards Class, with lots of exciting learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom.

A real highlight was our educational visit to Quarry Bank Mill, where the children took part in a range of engaging, hands-on activities. They explored the wildlife that lives in rivers, developed their understanding of coordinates in a real-life context, and even carried out investigations to test the speed of river flow. The children demonstrated excellent curiosity, teamwork and behaviour throughout the visit.

Back in the classroom, the children have been working incredibly hard as they continue to prepare for their SATs. We have been particularly impressed with the progress in Maths, where pupils are growing in confidence and accuracy. Recently, they have been learning about different types of angles and applying this knowledge to calculate missing angles; showing great reasoning and problem-solving skills.

In English, the focus has been on developing understanding of subjunctive clauses. The children have approached this challenging area of grammar with maturity and determination, and are beginning to apply it effectively in their writing.

In Art, Buzzards have been developing their sketching and painting techniques. They have produced some fantastic work inspired by wolves, combining detailed sketches with beautiful watercolour techniques.

Overall, Buzzards Class have shown a positive attitude and strong work ethic across all areas of learning. We are very proud of their efforts and the progress they are making as they approach this important stage of the year.



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Kestrels:

Kestrels Class have had a lovely and engaging time exploring the theme of growth and change.

The children have been particularly fascinated by looking at their baby photographs. They thoroughly enjoyed sharing these with their friends and talking about what they were like as babies. It was wonderful to see their excitement as they compared their baby pictures to how they look now.

Through these discussions, the children have been developing a deeper understanding of how they have grown and changed over time. They have been able to reflect on all the new things they can do now that they couldn't do before, showing great awareness of their own development. This has led to lots of meaningful conversations, helping to build confidence, language skills and a strong sense of self.

We are incredibly proud of how thoughtfully the children have engaged with this topic and how respectfully they have listened to one another. It has been a joy to see them making connections in their learning and celebrating how much they have grown.

Sparrowhawks:

It has been another exciting and busy period in Sparrowhawks Class, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum.

One of the highlights was our dinosaur-themed Forest Day, where the children travelled back in time to become young palaeontologists! They explored the outdoors to discover "dinosaur fossils", using their observation skills and imagination to bring their learning to life. The children showed great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the day.

We also enjoyed a brilliant educational visit to Jodrell Bank Observatory, where the children were inspired by space and science. They engaged wonderfully with the activities and represented the school brilliantly with their excellent behaviour and curiosity.

In Science, we have been learning about food groups and the importance of healthy eating. The children have developed a good understanding of how to keep their bodies healthy and have enjoyed discussing balanced diets.



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Our Art lessons have focused on still life. The children carefully observed daffodils and produced beautiful artwork using inks, showing great attention to detail and creativity. We are very proud of their final pieces.

In Maths, our Year 2 children have continued to build confidence in multiplication and division, applying their knowledge to a range of problems. Meanwhile, Year 1 have worked incredibly hard during their assessments and have shown great resilience and independence.

In Writing, Year 2 have completed their instructional writing based on *The Bog Baby*, producing clear and well-structured pieces on how to keep a Bog Baby. Year 1 have also been developing their instructional writing, inspired by *Where The Wild Things Are*, and have done a fantastic job forming sentences and using their ideas creatively.

Well done to all of Sparrowhawks for their hard work and positive attitude—we are very proud of you all!

Attendance:

Class	This week's attendance	Cumulative attendance for the year
Kestrel	92.59%	96.85%
Sparrowhawk	94.27%	94.86%
Owl	98.28%	97.17%
Peregrine	98.81%	97.59%
Buzzard	97.58%	96.66%
Whole school	96.38%	96.58%

Celebration Assembly:

Kestrel – Jessica & Iris

Sparrowhawk – Freddie & Freddie

Owl – Willow & Joel

Peregrine – Eveline & Erik

Buzzard – Kian & Felix



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Have a great weekend!

Mr Bell