A little note from our Headteacher

Looking back on a wonderful week and ahead to another busy one

Dear Parents and Carers,

What another wonderful week we enjoyed at Ashton Hayes! Across our little school, children have been learning with enthusiasm, curiosity and kindness, and I am enormously grateful to our staff for making these experiences so special.

Sparrowhawks brought the Great Fire of London to life at Weaver Hall Museum, while Owls travelled even further back in time with a brilliant Stone Age-inspired Outdoor Learning Day. Kestrels explored the beautiful traditions of Diwali and enjoyed a wonderful Forest School day, hunting for spider webs and creating spiders of their own.

Peregrines have been developing their artistic talents through detailed sketches and continuing their times tables work. Buzzards have been investigating the science of light and refraction, beginning their eco-friendly tote bag designs and exploring the meaning of Remembrance.

One of the most moving moments of the week was our two-minute silence for Remembrance Day. I was incredibly proud of the respect and maturity shown by every child. It was a very special moment for our school community.

It was also lovely to welcome so many families to parents' evenings. Thank you for your time, your support and the important partnership we share.

This week is every bit as busy! More classes are heading into the forest, Year 6 will visit Crucial Crew on Tuesday afternoon, flu immunisations take place on Thursday, and we look forward to welcoming Rev Weston to lead our assembly on Friday.

Thank you, as always, for everything you do to support our wonderful school. I hope you have a lovely week!

Martin Bell
Headteacher

Ashton Hayes Primary School

Our week in school | Friday 13 November 2026

A wonderful week of learning

From outdoor adventures and fascinating history to thoughtful Remembrance activities, creativity and plenty of excitement about the weeks ahead, here is a look at what our classes have been enjoying.

Kestrels | A week of light, colour and curiosity

Another week full of light, colour, curiosity and wonderful learning for Kestrels!

This week we have been exploring Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and the children have absolutely loved discovering the beautiful traditions and celebrations that surround it. We have been thinking about the importance of light, sharing stories and exploring all the wonderful ways it can be used to celebrate.

Our classroom has been glowing with creativity! We have made beautiful clay diya lamps, decorated with natural treasures, explored Rangoli patterns using loose parts and investigated the fascinating shapes and shadows they create in our light area. We have also enjoyed creating our own Mehndi-inspired designs. There has been so much careful thinking, creativity and independence along the way.

In Drawing Club, we have been enjoying Orion and the Dark... a lovely story that has sparked some wonderful conversations and imaginative ideas. What is dark? What does it look like? Where does it hide in the day? Our phonics and writing continue to make us so proud too. The children are becoming so confident with their reading and are quite literally blowing us away! And of course their writing — we have been writing sentences about lamps! In maths, we have been exploring number bonds to 5... hopefully you have been hearing lots of “1 and 4 make 5”.

It was so lovely to see you all for parents’ evening... we feel very lucky to have such lovely, supportive parents!

Another gorgeous week with our very special little humans.





Kestrels | Forest School adventures

What a fabulous day! A cold, crisp morning — Children in Need Day — and the children had the right clothes, lots of layers with hats and gloves.

We had a lovely carpet time and talked about what we know about spiders, looked at some of the native spiders and some very cute jumping spiders. Layered up and headed to the woodlands, we were on a spider web hunt with torches and magnifying glasses; this fun continued even through break time.

After break we made spider webs with yarn and sticks; they all were very resilient. After lunch we then made our own spiders out of clay and sticks, made a huge spider's web all together and trapped some sneaky flies! We ended our time in the woodlands acting as spiders waiting for their prey, to then finish off with a yummy Tunnock's spider teacake.





Owls | Stone Age forest adventures

Our Owls travelled back to the Stone Age during their forest day, building mammoth-proof shelters using only natural materials. Making spears took a little longer than expected, but the children showed wonderful resilience!

They loved cooking dampers over the fire with Mr Garcia and making their own paint from mud and charcoal to decorate the outdoor classroom. It was wonderfully messy, and everyone had a fantastic time!

We are already looking forward to exploring wattle and daub on another visit.

Sparrowhawks | History brought to life

We have had a wonderful week of learning in Sparrowhawk classroom with the highlight being our trip to Weaver Hall Museum in Northwich. We had an amazing firsthand experience and learnt all about the Great Fire of London. The children showcased their existing knowledge and were really keen to get involved in all the activities, really bringing the topic to life.

Thank you to all the parents who came to support us and helped make the trip possible.

In English we have started learning about our new book Snow White and the Seven Bears. The children are already showing their excellent writing skills and developing some lovely language to talk about how Snow White felt.

In phonics we have been reviewing previously learned sounds and have learnt the new sound y in baby and al in walk.

In Maths we have been exploring and developing our understanding of more and fewer. We have also been learning how to record subtraction number sentences.

Rehearsing for our Christmas production is now in full swing and the children have absolutely showcased their amazing singing with the songs and actions. We are already really excited to share it with you.

We look forward to another busy week next week, which will culminate in our outdoor learning day with Mrs Mochrie on Friday consolidating our knowledge on the Great Fire of London.

Sparrowhawks at Weaver Hall Museum





Bringing the Great Fire of London to life through hands-on history.

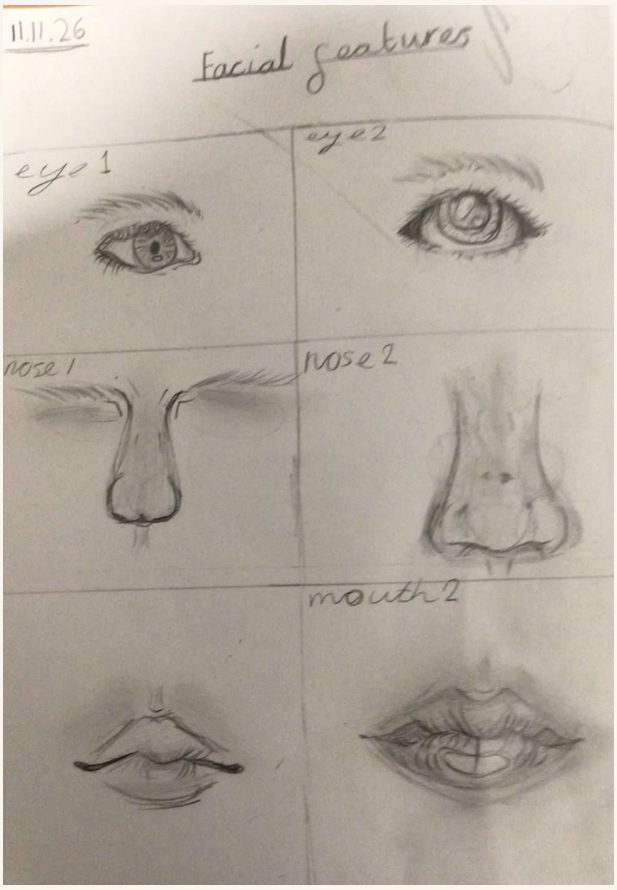
Peregrines | Sketching, reading and discovery

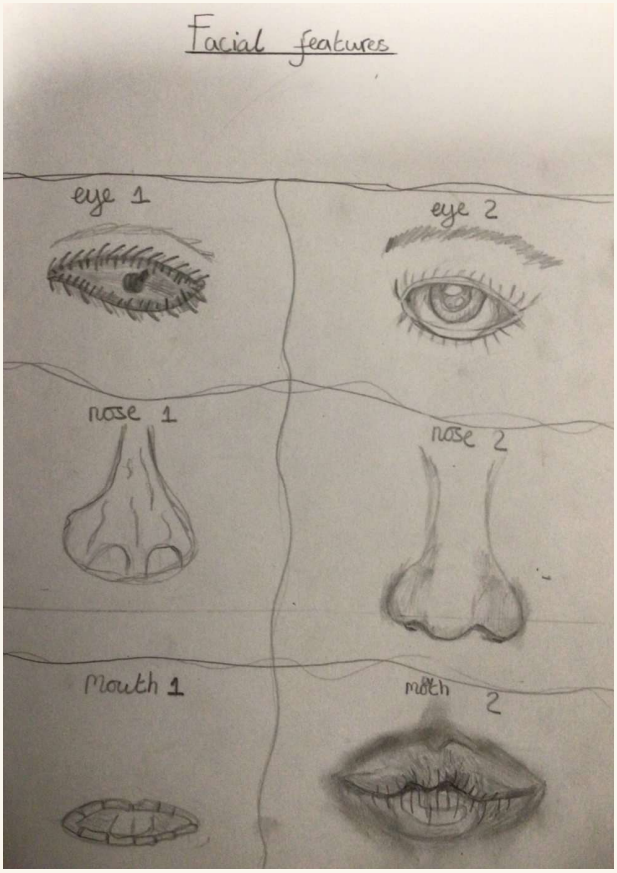
It's been another busy week for Peregrines, and the children have been working really hard! In Art, we've been practising sketching different facial features and the children have produced some lovely work. I'll be sharing a few pictures so you can see how well they've been getting on!

In Guided Reading, we finished our work on The Travel Book with a final quiz, and the children did a brilliant job showing just how much they had learnt from this non-fiction text.

We've also started our new RE topic all about Judaism, finding out what Jewish people believe about God.

In Maths, we've continued our times tables practice and it looks like we've cracked the 6, 7 and 9 times tables! Well done, Peregrines — keep up the great work!





A selection of the children's detailed studies of facial features.

Buzzards | Imagination, investigation and reflection

It's been another great week in Buzzard class this week! We've started exploring a new guided reading text called The Nowhere Emporium. It's filled with magic and mystery and we are hooked from just the first few pages!

In writing, we've been working hard to plan out and start writing our final diary entries based on our book I Go Quiet.

In science we've been exploring refraction and Buzzards were fascinated by how light refraction can distort objects. We had such a brilliant discussion, particularly around how glasses work!

We have also begun working on our DT project for the half term — we're making eco-friendly tote bags and we're super excited about it. We're in the research and design stages at the moment but will soon be getting stuck into some sewing.

On Wednesday, we took a little break from our regular routine to do some work around Remembrance. We talked about why we have Remembrance Day and why it's so important. We explored a lovely moment of hope from WW1 (the Christmas Truce) and the children wrote letters about this from the point of view of a soldier.

Owls | Stone Age discoveries

English, maths, history, RE and an exciting outdoor learning day

In Owl Class this week, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning. In English, we have been exploring adverbs and similes, putting our creativity to good use by writing some wonderful fireworks poems.

In Maths, our Year 2 children have been working incredibly hard on subtraction with renaming, and it has been lovely to see how proud and confident they are becoming! Meanwhile, Year 3 have been learning to multiply by 3, 4 and 8. We encourage everyone to keep practising their times tables at home using TT Rock Stars.

In History, we have travelled back in time to the Stone Age, discovering how early humans lived and survived. We have also begun our new RE topic on Judaism, exploring what it means to belong and how we can feel part of different communities.

The highlight of our week was undoubtedly our Outdoor Learning Day! The children had a brilliant time taking part in a range of Stone Age-inspired activities, including soap knapping to create their very own arrowheads! It was a fantastic opportunity to bring our History learning to life, and the children thoroughly enjoyed getting hands-on with their learning. What a wonderful week, Owls!

Attendance & school community

Week ending Friday 13 November 2026

Our attendance this week

Class	This week	Year to date
Kestrels	98.73%	98.35%
Sparrowhawks	100%	97.03%
Owls	96.33%	96.42%
Peregrines	94.29%	98.04%
Buzzards	100%	98.08%
Whole school	**97.64%**	**97.52%**

Help us share our wonderful school!

We are so proud of everything that happens at Ashton Hayes, and we would love your help in sharing the wonderful experiences our children enjoy.

We are now posting on our school social media channels up to three times each week, celebrating children's learning, achievements, creativity and the opportunities that make our little school such a special place.

If you haven't already, please follow our school pages. A like, comment or share really does make a difference!

By helping spread the word, you are supporting our school, celebrating our children and helping more families discover what makes Ashton Hayes such a lovely place to learn and grow.

Thank you for being such wonderful ambassadors for our school community!

Facebook: facebook.com/AshtonHayesPS

Instagram: instagram.com/ashtonhayesprimary

Community news & online safety

Christmas tree lighting and Wake Up Wednesday

Christmas Tree Lighting | Friday 4 December



Wake Up Wednesday | Doxing

Doxing is when someone's personal information is shared online without their consent. This might include a home address, phone number or private family details. Our latest National College guide explores the risks and practical ways to help children protect their privacy and stay safe online.

