◦ *Resilience* ◦ *Determination* ◦ *Consideration* ◦ *Community Mindedness* ◦ *Responsibility* ◦ *Honesty* ◦

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 01: Friday, 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a wonderful summer break and a positive first full week back. A HUGE well done to our Year 6 children, who have hit the ground running having completed their 11+ tests this week. We are very proud of you all!

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our families and pupils. We are delighted to be back in school and making a positive start on our learning this year. We would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to our new families and children. Whether you are joining us with a child in Reception or any other class, we hope you enjoy being a part of the Ash Hill family. At Ash Hill we strive for every child to feel a deep sense of belonging, experience joy in their learning and become the best they can be. We look forward to working with you to achieve this vision.

Attendance

This year we are determined for all pupils to be Attendance Heroes: Here, Every day, Ready and On time. We understand that there are sometimes unavoidable circumstances that result in absences, but wherever possible we encourage pupils to be in school. If you are ever unsure about whether to send your child in, please do let us know and we can advise. Missing even one day in school can result in pupils falling behind, so it is important to avoid absences wherever possible.

Meet the Teacher

We hope your children have been coming home full of positivity about their new classes! We will soon share dates for our Meet the Teacher sessions, where you will meet your child's teacher and hear all about their curriculum for this year. In the meantime, please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Playground

You might have noticed a wonderful new structure on the playground! The climbing frame was completed over the summer and the children have been having such fun playing on this during lunch and break times.

Mrs Manning

Headteacher

Attendance W/C 31/08/2026

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	88.3	2
Year 1	89.8	1
Year 2	96	3
Year 3	95.5	3
Year 4	91.1	1
Year 5	86.7	0
Year 6	94.2	2

Hero—Here Everyday, Ready On time!

100%	Excellent
96-99.9%	Good
90-95.9%	Needs to improve
88.9% or less	Really needs to improve

Coming Up...

Diary Dates 2026/2027		
DATE	EVENT	Year groups
01.10.2026	School Census Day	
01.10.2026	Year 5 Swimming	5
07.10.2026 - 09.10.2026	Year 6 Residential: PGL Marchants Hill (2 nights)	6
15.10.2026	Year 5 Swimming	5
21.10.2026	Year 5 Swimming	5
October Half Term : 26.10.2026 - 30.10.2026		
02.11.2026	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	

Letters Home This week:

- PE Days for all year groups
- Year 3 Reading Books
- Year 5 Swimming

This Week in School....

Reception

Reception has had a very busy first week at school! We have been introducing class routines and expectations, showing the children how to look after resources and equipment. Everybody has enjoyed exploring their new classroom environments, both inside and outside! Thank you to all parents and carers who have helped with the settling process. Well done children, have a restful weekend! Don't forget to bring in your PE kits by Wednesday next week so that you can get changed into PE clothes.

Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic first full week! We have been busy learning, exploring and having lots of fun together.

English
We have started our new story, The Three Little Pigs! The children were very excited when the three little pigs came into our classroom and left behind straw, sticks and bricks for us to investigate. We have been working hard to improve our sentences by making them more interesting and have been learning how to use adjectives in our writing. We even had a go at creating our very own stories!

Maths
In maths, we have been exploring place value to 10. We have been counting groups of objects, using ten frames to represent numbers and beginning to recognise numerals when they are written as words.

Science
We have been learning about different parts of the human body. We identified our eyes, nose, mouth, arms, legs, elbows and knees and talked about where they are on our bodies.

Geography
We became explorers this week as we looked at key landmarks around our school. We enjoyed identifying important places and thinking about where they are located.

Art
In art, we have been experimenting with spirals using lots of different materials, including pencils, pastels and felt tips. We explored how the different materials can create different effects.

It has been a wonderful first full week, and we are so proud of how well the children have settled into Year 1!

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!

Year 2

Welcome to Year 2!
It has been such a pleasure getting to know the children over the last week or so, and I am so excited for the year ahead! This week, we have really kickstarted our learning and have got straight into Year 2.
In Maths, we have started our new unit on place value, exploring how we can partition numbers and use a place value chart to show tens and ones. Why not ask your child how many tens and ones are in 56, 78 and 24 and see if they can explain how they know?
In English, we have started by reading and learning our model text. The children have been busy learning the story and have already started making changes and adaptations to it, ready for their own independent write at the end of the term. We are also continuing with phonics, working hard to complete all of our sounds.
Our Science topic, Animals and Their Needs for Survival, is now underway. We started by looking closely at mammals and exploring what makes an animal a mammal.
The children have worked incredibly hard this week and have shown off their fantastic learning skills. They have made such a positive start to Year 2, and I am already so proud of them! I am looking forward to seeing all the wonderful progress they make as the year continues.

Year 3

What a wonderful and positive start to the week we have had in Year 3! The children have settled in brilliantly and have already shown such enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience in their learning. We are so proud of them!

This week, we have begun learning our exciting new text map: The Cobbler and the Dragon! The children have been working hard to remember the key events and vocabulary within the story.

We have also been exploring suffixes and learning how to use fronted adverbials to make our writing even more interesting and descriptive. We have loved seeing the children experiment with their new grammar skills!

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value. We have been counting in 100s, exploring the value of digits and practising how to partition numbers. The children have been fantastic at explaining their mathematical thinking and showing different ways to represent numbers.

We have had some beautiful learning in Art this week! The children created visual notes about some very exciting artists, exploring their work and recording their ideas creatively. It has been wonderful to see their artistic curiosity and imagination shine through.

We have also officially started our awesome Stone Age unit! The children have been introduced to this fascinating period of history and have already shown lots of excitement about finding out what life was like during the Stone Age. We can't wait to see where our learning takes us next!

A huge well done to all of Year 3 for such a positive, enthusiastic and successful start. We are incredibly proud of the way the children have approached their learning and supported one another.

We hope everyone has a lovely weekend — you have certainly earned it!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a great first, full week describing portals and practising their curriculum spelling words with each other. There are plenty of useful ideas for how to improve your spelling even if you're not sure...have a go! You can split words up, write them in bubble font, enlarge the tricky bit or the old favourite: look, say, cover, write and check. Handwriting is a big focus for us as a school this year as it helps free up our imaginations to write fantastic fiction and detailed non-fiction. We have been focusing on the ladder letters (i, t, l) this week.

Did you know that the Romans lived in Micklefield 1700 years ago? In fact, coins and pottery have been found just down the road but who was living here when they first arrived? The Celts and their tribes launched our history learning this week. In Maths, we have been looking at place value and number lines, understanding how a digit changes in values depending on where it is in a number. Finally, we have been admiring famous statues before making our own clay busts inspired by the Romans.

Well done everybody on completing your first full week in such a positive way.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a great start to the term.

We've started our learning on forces in Science, looked at Monotypes and Monoprint in Art and the children have produced some fantastic short burst writing on creating atmosphere using the weather and personification.

Well done Year 5 on completing your first full week. Have a wonderful weekend!

Year 6

It's been a whirlwind start in Year 6 leading to the Transfer Test which most children sat yesterday. I was very impressed with their focus both on Tuesday and Thursday and the effort that they put into it. We can now focus on our curriculum and giving children the skills needed to be successful in Year 6. Our first unit in Maths is place value. We have been reading and writing numbers up to 10,000,000 and understanding the place value of each digit. In English we have been thinking about how we can describe a setting using precise adjectives and verbs. Our History topic is Ancient Greece and we have been looking at the location of Greece and the geographical extent of their empire. Whilst in Spanish we have been learning more about several Spanish cities. Did you know that in Barcelona people speak two languages, Spanish and Catalan. I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Events & Notices

International Literacy Day Competition

To celebrate International Literacy Day, we have launched a competition for all year groups!

To enter, think of your favourite story - it can be one that has been read to you, one from another year, a book you enjoyed over summer or one you've read to yourself.

Then either write or draw what you think might be the next part of that story (the sequel) on one page of A4. Only one entry per child. Book related prizes will be given to the top entries! Good luck!