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

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 02: Friday, 18th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a busy week at Ash Hill as always!

Our Year 3 children have started forest school and everyone has made a great start on their curriculum learning this term. We have been particularly impressed with how well children have learned their new stories in their English lessons, and with how hard everyone is working in Maths.

School Council
We are in the process of electing our school council members for this year. If you are a parent of a Year 6 child, please encourage them to apply for the role of Ash Hill Ambassador. Our year 6 pupils take a lead role in the council and this is a wonderful leadership experience for them before heading to secondary school. We can only award the title to two elected pupils, but the process of applying is a valuable experience for all pupils.

Weather
Although some of the heat from the summer is still lingering, we have had some sudden rain this week. The clouds always appear as soon as we step outside! Please could you therefore ensure your child has a coat for playtimes.

Bedtime Routines
With the return to school we have had many conversations about sleep routines, as adapting back to a school routine can be a challenge after the summer. We have found a really useful page here about sleep routines and how to improve bedtimes. One key principle is reducing screen time around bedtime. Some pupils report falling asleep to phones, YouTube and other screens. Although there is endless content claiming to support children's sleep, the research is not supportive. If you are finding sleep a challenge, it may be worth considering the access pupils have to screens at bedtime. If you would like to discuss routines or need any further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,
Mrs Manning

Attendance W/C 07/09/2026

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	86.9	4
Year 1	94.1	3
Year 2	95.7	0
Year 3	96.7	5
Year 4	95.9	4
Year 5	94.3	4
Year 6	97	6

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**
15.09.2026 (Weekly)	Year 3 Group 1 Forest School Starts	3 (Group 1)
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
20.10.2026	Year 3 Group 1 Forest School Last session	3 (Group 1)
21.10.2026	Year 5 Swimming	5
October Half Term: 23.10.2026 - 30.10.2026		
02.11.2026	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
03.11.2026 (Weekly)	Year 3 Group 2 Forest School Starts	3 (Group 2)
09.11.2026	School Photos	
18.11.2026	Flu Immunisations	R-6
08.12.2026	Year 3 Group 2 Forest School Last Session	3 (Group 2)
Christmas & New Year Break: 21.12.2026 - 01.01.2027		
07.06.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
19.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
20.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
21.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	

Letters Home This week:

- Year 3 Forest School
- Free School Meals reminder

This Week in School....

Reception

This week, the children in Reception have continued to settle into their new routines, it has been wonderful to see how much more confident they are becoming. We are very proud of how well they are settling in.

This week, the children have started their phonics journey and have been learning a new phoneme each day. So far, we have learnt s, a, t and p. The children have been working hard to learn the sound each phoneme makes and have had lots of opportunities to practise writing them.

We have also been enjoying the familiar story The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children have had lots of fun making bridges both inside and outside, using a variety of construction materials. They have also enjoyed re telling the story using small-world toys.

The children have been listening and enjoying lots of other books too. We have been encouraging them to think about what makes a good character and setting in a story. This will help us when we begin creating and telling our very own stories!

In maths, we have been practising our counting from 1-10. The children have been doing a brilliant job of recognising numbers 1-5 and have enjoyed spotting when a number is missing from a sequence.

Well done, Reception! You have had a brilliant week. Have a lovely, well-deserved rest this weekend!

Year 1

Year 1 have had another fantastic week of learning!

English: We have continued our writing based on The Three Little Pigs. We have been working hard to make our sentences more interesting by using lots of adjectives. We even had a go at writing a sentence that included a simile!

Maths: We have been practising counting on from a given number, finding one more than a number and counting backwards to 10. We have been using practical resources to help us develop our understanding.

Science: We have been learning about different parts of the body. We labelled parts including our arms, legs, hands and eyes.

Art: We had lots of fun drawing spirals to music. We listened to both fast and slow music and created spirals to match the tempo. We discovered that our slow spirals often looked better because we had more control over our pencils!

Geography: We learnt about physical and human features and began to understand the difference between features that are natural and those that have been created by people.

Music: We explored the pulse in music and sang a song about who our friends are. We enjoyed keeping in time with the music and singing together.

Well done, Year 1, for another brilliant week of learning!

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have continued to work incredibly hard and have been showing off their fantastic learning skills!

In English, we have continued writing our own sentences to adapt our model text, thinking carefully about how we can make changes while keeping the story structure. Our phonics sessions are going really well, and we have also started learning some of our Year 2 Common Exception Words, helping us to become more confident with our spelling.

In Maths, we have continued our work on place value, focusing on partitioning numbers into tens and ones flexibly. We have been exploring how the same number can be partitioned in lots of different ways. For example, 52 = 50 + 2, 52 = 40 + 12, 52 = 30 + 22. Why not ask your child how many different ways they can partition 52?

We have also started our new PSHE unit, Being Me in My World. This week, we focused on our hopes and fears for the year ahead, thinking about the things we are looking forward to, as well as anything that might make us feel worried or unsure. It has been lovely to hear the children sharing their thoughts and listening carefully to one another.

Another fantastic week, Year 2 — keep up the brilliant work!

Year 3

What a wonderful and exciting week we have had in Year 3!
This week, we have been busy exploring partitioning to 1,000. We have practised representing 3-digit numbers using hundreds, tens and ones, and have enjoyed finding different ways to partition numbers. We are becoming increasingly confident at recognising the value of each digit in a 3-digit number!
We have continued our fascinating exploration of the human skeleton. This week, we broadened our learning by looking at the skeletons of different animals and comparing them with our own. We enjoyed spotting similarities and differences and thinking carefully about how skeletons help animals to move and survive.
Our creativity really came to life in Computing this week! We loved designing and inventing our very own digital devices, thinking carefully about what they might look like, what they could do and how they could help people. We certainly have some budding inventors in Year 3!
Finally… we arrived at school today to discover a mysterious box waiting for us! Even more mysteriously, it was making some very suspicious noises… We have lots of questions and plenty of theories about what could possibly be inside. I'm sure we will all have lots to update you on when we come home today! Watch this space…

Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!

Year 4

Year 4 have been tackling tricky partitioning in Maths this week as well as adding and subtracting multiples of 10, 100 and 1000. Times tables practice will be featuring more TT Rockstars action in school as well as at home when possible so look out for logins today.

In English, we have been in the treetops at a feast of epic proportions using our descriptive skills. Studying Roman artefacts and discussing how historians know that they lived in Britain was a great investigation. We have also been modelling in D.T using pipe cleaners to create different poses and looking at Christian worship in R.E.

Finally, we discussed what we want our classroom team and environment to look, sound and feel like. Meditating in silence was my favourite part of that.

Please keep up with the daily reading and times tables practice at https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student

Have a good weekend.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fabulous week.

They started their class novel, Holes by Louis Sachar and have been full of questions about the book.

In Spanish, they've been learning how to talk about their likes and dislikes.

The children have produced some excellent short burst writing, creating atmosphere using the weather and personification to tell the story of Moana's journey across the ocean.

Our Maths lessons have involved plenty of work on Place Value and ordering numbers and the children used a view finder to experiment different mark making techniques in Art.

Year 6

With the Transfer Test completed last week, it always feels as though we now get to start our term in earnest in Year 6.

We have been cracking on in our Maths and this week we have been thinking about rounding and multiplying or dividing by powers of 10.

In English we have been reminding ourselves of the rules for writing speech and we have also been describing charcaters' emotions and feelings.

Our first RE topic is looking at the origins of major religions and we have begun this by considering what a worldview is.

We have also started our Science topic of Living Things and their Habitats with this week's lesson looking at conditions for life.

We have set our first home learning today. Please support your child in completing this and returning it by Wednesday morning.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Important Reminders

School Lunches

Parents are reminded that all school lunches must be ordered via ParentMail at least 2 weeks in advance. If you have not ordered lunch for your child, please ensure they bring a packed to school on the day as we are unable to provide additional lunches to those who have not booked in advance.

Breakfast Club

If you would like your child to attend breakfast club, please ensure you have booked in advance via ParentMail; the ordering window closes 8 days prior.

As with lunches, food and resources are prepared beforehand and so we are unable to accommodate requests past the ordering window. Please also be aware that we often operate at maximum capacity and so children should only attend if they have a place booked.

School Gates

This is a gentle reminder that the school gates open automatically at the beginning (8:40am) and the end (3:10pm) of the school day. We kindly ask that parents wait outside the gates until this time and do not try to enter beforehand when visitors/parents are let in and out of the gates.

School Calendar and Inset Days

The school inset days are now listed in the bulletin diary dates and our full school calendar of term dates can be found on the school website: Ash Hill Primary School -

Half Term Activities

Please take a look at the attached flyer from Mr Bell with details of the October camp running during half term.