

News Letter April 2019

Diary Dates

School Closes
Friday 12th April

Half term
15th–26th April

School opens
Monday 29th April

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 5th February, the school took part in Safer Internet Day. This year we focused on Consent. We learnt about what consent is in terms of our data, terms and conditions, approving apps to have access to the camera or microphone and posting pictures and information about our friends online. We also found out about some of the repercussions of not asking for consent or finding out what we are consenting to. Why don't you ask your child/children what they learnt?

Communication:

Is all this news to you? We share much of your children's learning on our school website—why not take a peek?

www.asfordbyhill.leics.sch.uk

Goodbye Mrs Smith



Unfortunately Mrs Smith will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. She has decided to take early retirement. She is already planning many wonderful ways of spending her free time, although we sincerely hope she will be popping in now and then to help us out! I am sure you will join me in saying a huge thank you for all she has done to make AHS the fantastic place it is and of course we wish her all the best.

However, last month we held a very tough 'interview day' putting 7 candidates through their paces. The successful teacher was Miss Sophie Harby. You might recognise her - she completed part of her teacher training with us last year in EYFS. Her creativity, professionalism and belief that teaching is all about putting the children first, wowed us.

We welcome her to AHS, knowing she will continue the high standards met by Mrs Smith.



Dentist visit

After a special visit from dental nurses, can Year 1 and 2 remember how to keep their mouths healthy?

James says 'Brush your teeth for two minutes twice a day!'

Paige says 'I'm going to keep my teeth healthy by not eating too much sugar, like jelly tots!'

Mia says 'I'm going to eat healthy food like apples and see my dentist who will check my teeth to see if they are healthy!'

Haven't they remembered well?



Sensory Garden Update

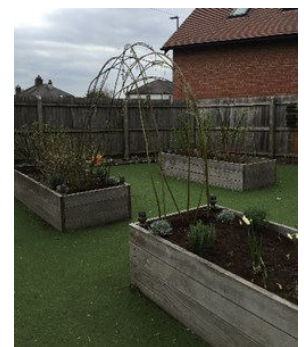
The garden is now well underway with all materials, soil and plants on order.

Over the Easter holidays, a team from the Melton Lions, along with Mr Mould, will be building the main structure of the garden in-readiness for next term's planting. The Sensory Committee would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have supported, through donations, time and advice. They are looking forward to updating you all with the garden's developments next term.



Our sponsored run was really good fun, with children, parents and staff running as far as they could around the course. Thank you all for your Generosity and energy if you ran! We hope to have raised over £1000.

Watch out for the tokens at Tesco's—we have been chosen to take part in their 'Bags of help' initiative.





Mindfulness

The children spent an afternoon 'tasting' different strategies that they could use to develop a healthy mind. At AHS we feel it is just as important to keep your mind well as it is to keep the rest of your body well.

This is what some of the children thought:
Joel: ' I did some amazing doodling with Mrs Callaghan. I now like to draw at home and it keeps me calm. I also enjoyed the cooking - it was fun decorating the biscuits which helped me focus my mind on happy things not negative things.'
Sophie: 'I enjoyed the yoga because it helped me get into my own zone so I could relax. I do it at home now which helps me fall asleep at night time.'

Amelie: ' My favourite activity was playing with the sand because I was able to be quiet and calm down.'



Science Week

This term, the children experienced an exciting week of science. They used all of their scientific skills in a week of exploration and discovery. The children were encouraged to think about everyday discoveries and how they affect their lives by exploring science in the world around us; from their home and school, to their local area and wider environment. We were very grateful for the environmentalists, waste experts and educationalists who came into school to share their knowledge with the children.



Computing visits

At the start of the Spring term, both KS1 and KS2 had some special visitors. KS1 retold the story of the Three Little Pigs using video and animation. They used this to inspire their fantastic fiction writing. The following day, KS2 had a virtual reality experience. Children travelled to so many different places: the Roman era, the Great Barrier Reef, the Amazon Rainforest, Space and inside the Human body.



Bikeability

Bikeability was offered to all KS2 children. 55 children took part in Level 1, 50 passed. 22 children attempted Level 2, which takes place on the road.. with 18 passing! Congratulations to all who took part in this

Otis: Level one on the playground teaches you how to check your bike using both the 'M' and 'ABCD' check.

Sophie: I really enjoyed learning how to be safe and the correct way of approaching a junction; move into the middle of your lane, look behind you, signal and then turn in if safe to do so. 100% worth it as it teaches you to be safe on the road, control a bike and enjoy bike riding which keeps you healthy.

Balance biking was offered to all EYFS children who looked like they were having the time of their lives.

Willow Class Dance Extravaganza.

On Wednesday 6th of February we took part in the Sky Schools Dance Challenge 2019. The children embraced the challenge of creating a story and telling it through ballet movement. They told the story of some woodland animals who would not be friends together. Fairies shared their kindness to ensure everyone became friends. 6 schools took part and we achieved 3rd place, plus 3 awards: Best Pupil Interview, Best Behaved Backstage and Best Concept. Wednesday 13th saw us sitting on winners row as we watched the next 6 schools participate. After another enjoyable show it was announced that out of 12 schools we had achieved 4th position. An outstanding achievement for our 5 and 6 year olds.



Our children said: We were proud of ourselves. It was exciting and brilliant. When we stood on stage and the lights shone on us it felt like we were actually in the forest and the animals were all sleeping.