

Hannah Ball School

Weekly Newsletter

14th January 2022



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Dear Parents,

We are delighted to report that the recent Ofsted inspection in November 2021, recognised the significant improvement and progress made by the school over the past 4 years.

In December 2017, Hannah Ball School was graded “Requires Improvement” across all five inspection measures. Today we are rated as a strong “**Good**” in **Early Years** provision; the **Personal Development** opportunities we offer and deliver to children, as well as the **Behaviour and Attitudes** of our pupils. The inspection report is very complimentary about the ambition we have for all our children and the transformative impact our work has had on outcomes.

The inspectors acknowledged that the school leaders (including governors) were aware of where more work is needed, such as phonics and early reading, and that the changes put in place to address these issues had not had sufficient time to be felt. You will be aware from our newsletters, and the work your children are bringing home, that we had already introduced a new phonics programme (Essential Letters and Sounds), purchased a new reading scheme and have a structured catch-up programme led by Mrs Machingauta. We have more exciting plans to strengthen every child’s reading which we will share shortly.

The Ofsted inspectors came to their judgements after a very thorough 2-day process. We would like to thank everyone that has contributed to such significant improvements over the last four years and particularly those staff, pupils, parents and governors that gave valuable feedback and insight during the process itself.

Our School Values

Our first assembly of the new term this week was all about **Responsibility**. This is one of our whole school values alongside Honesty, Respect, Resilience, Kindness and Curiosity. This sits well with our **Golden Rules of Ready, Respectful, Safe**.

We are encouraging our pupils to be responsible for their own learning and this can be seen in a variety of different ways.

- Have they got the correct school uniform on? Are they wearing smart school shoes, have they got the correct colour trousers?
- Have they got the correct 'kit'? – ie wearing their PE kit on PE days, pencils, rulers, water bottle, planner, reading book?

We are encouraging your children to take responsibility to change their reading books, to hand in their planners, to complete their homework and to do their best in every lesson.



We are also encouraging you to get your children to school on time – there are still a few families that are consistently late. We will be inviting parents in to discuss attendance when their child's attendance falls below 90% and has shown no sign of improvement. I am sure that you will agree, your children coming to school regularly is the key to their success.

Responsibility for our environment

Our children are taking a sensible and thoughtful approach to our environment. Our assembly looked at the effects of littering. If we don't put our rubbish in bins, it can end up harming animals, not only in our locality, but also across the whole country and even our world. Thank-you for setting the example for your children – we have noticed a reduction in the amount of litter that is dropped in and around our school.

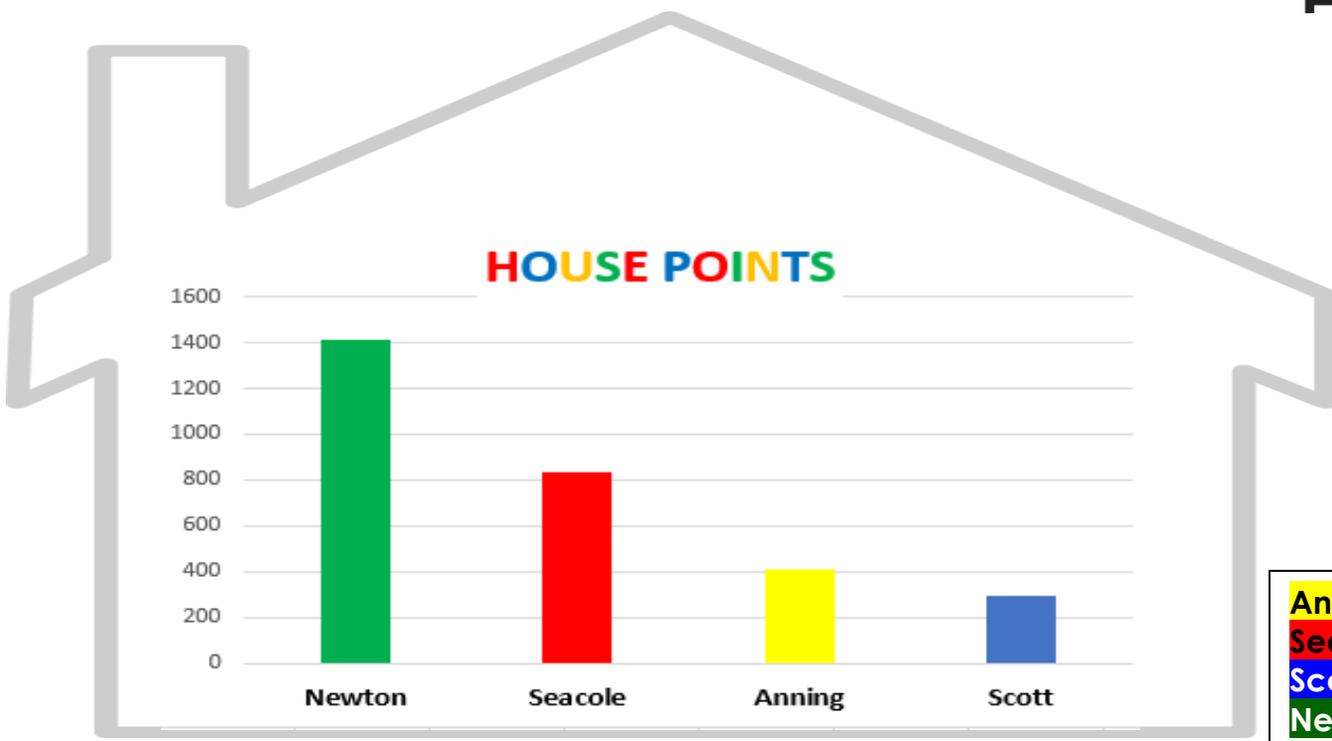
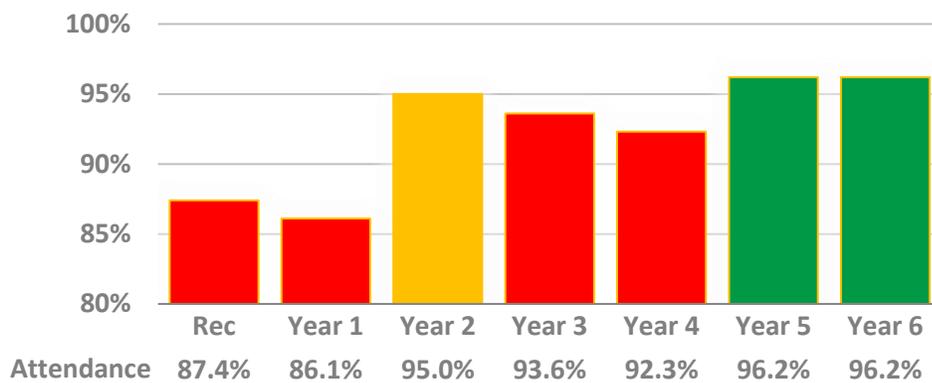
Volunteers needed

We are always looking for volunteers, whether to work in our Reception class or to support with reading. Please contact the school office on office@hannahball.bucks.sch.uk to register your interest. Gaining work experience will help with an application to study either Level 2 or Level 3 certificate in Working with Children in Early Years and Primary Settings.

Free School Meals

We know circumstances can change, so if you are in receipt of benefits, please contact our school office. There are simple forms to fill out, which we can help you with. This will not only benefit the school, but you will also be able to claim free school meals for your child and receive help towards the costs of trips and clubs

Attendance & House Points...



Anning	410
Seacole	832
Scott	297
Newton	1414



Star of the Week

Reception

Lilly-Rae has been working really hard over the Christmas break and in the classroom, to practise her sounds and is now able to read some words. Great work Lilly- Rae, keep it up!

Year 1

Jasmin for her resilience at all times. She is also working really hard in Phonics, practicing her blending to help with reading. Well done!

Year 2

Tescelia – for working hard in maths this week using resources to help her to explain her answers.

Year 3

Nawal, for sharing her knowledge of rocks in our science topic this term. Nawal used scientific words relating to our topic to describe rocks she'd collected over the school year so far.

Year 4

Ibrahim - For always trying hard across all subjects. He does not give up when he finds something challenging. He is living up to our school value of resilience. Well done and keep this up.

Year 5

Leo for consistently being kind and friendly.

Year 6

Anabel for her excellent contributions in all areas of the curriculum; especially in maths and PSHCE where she has shown resilience and respect.



Math-Whizz

Class Progressions

-  1st - Year 4 
-  2nd - Year 6
-  3rd - Year 1

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Year 1	Edward	Zaryan	Jenson-John
Year 2	Aniela	Bradley	Muhammad
Year 3	Sethun	Jasmine	Anaum
Year 4	Nicholas	Ibrahim	Laeeq
Year 5	Zakriya	Fareed	Olivia
Year 6	Humayl	Sitki	Umaiza



Coins Earned

Year 4 - 6140

Year 3 - 1233

Year 6 - 1111

Year 5 - 726



This week's Rock Legends

- Year 3 - Uzair
- Year 4 - Owais
- Year 5 - Nathan
- Year 6 - Eshan

MESSAGES FROM THE TEACHERS & STUDENTS...

Reception

This week in Reception, we have started our new topic of 'What happens when we fall asleep?'. Our book this week is 'Whatever Next' and we have had lots of fun pretending to go into space in our cardboard boxes and thinking about the different things we might see on the way. We have been using different small construction materials such as wooden blocks and magnetic shapes to build our own rockets. In Maths we have been counting to 6, 7 & 8 and looking at the different ways these numbers can be made. Parents, please remember to have a look on Tapestry to see what your child has been learning about. We sent out lots of lovely observations of your children before the Christmas holidays so please have a look. Have a great weekend.

Year 1

Year 1 pupils have had a busy week of exploring their new topic- We have started looking at our key text 'Ice Bear and the children have been practicing retelling our fact file model of Polar Bears. In maths, we are looking at 2d shapes and in Science we have been learning to name body our body parts. The children have also worked very hard in Phonics and they ae practicing their blending and segmenting skills. Please remember to listen to your child read every day and don't forget to sign their planner.

Year 2

Year 2 have had an exciting week. We started our Kenya topic with a workshop where we painted African masks using traditional dot techniques and then learnt some tribal dances and had lots of fun! We have learnt where Kenya is and a few facts about it and yesterday began to look at the different types of African art exploring the different themes, patterns, colours and symbols that we identified. We used chalk pastels, oil pastels and crayons to emulate the style of different artists and create our own interpretation. I can't wait to put the work up on the walls to create a fantastic display.

Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have been learning to use our times table knowledge to solve multiplication problems. In English we have started reading a new text and made clay pots to help use write a set of instructions. In Science this week we have been learning about rocks, soils and fossils and have used tools to help us investigate and group rocks.

Year 4

It has been an extremely busy week in year 4. We have started our new Topic of 'Living Things and their Habitats' - year 4 have been busy classifying animals into different groups. In English we have stated our new text - 'Rainbow Crow' (a Lenape Tale). Remember to ask your child what a 'Lenape Tale' is. We have been busy learning our story map and looking at features of the story. Well done year 4!

Year 5

We have been getting back into our learning routine and have been getting to know our new teacher, Mr Hall. We have designed some fabulous class charter posters and practiced reading aloud standing up like a public speaker (or a member of a choir!). While studying our new book Skellig, we debated whether being able to fly like a bird is more useful than being able to think and decided that after all, it isn't.

Year 6

Year 6 have had an excellent first full week back and have immersed themselves in our new topic where we are learning all about Charles Darwin, his famous voyage on the HMS beagle and his scientific theories.

In science, we began by looking at the concept of inheritance which the children then applied to Mr Men and Little Miss characters! They considered which characteristics and features any offspring may inherit and this led to some great pieces of work. In topic, we have been looking at the story 'moth' which tells us all about the adaptation of the peppered moth. The children used the story for an art lesson where they used various pencil techniques to create their own peppered moths to show variation. In English we have been spending some time looking at indigenous creatures of the Galápagos Islands. We started with watching David Attenborough explore the islands and some of the wonderful species native to them. To finish off the week, the children learnt their new model text, which is a report about the 'Galapagos flying lizard' and also drew their own text maps for it, ready for when they will be researching and writing their own reports about another creature from the islands. In maths we have been finishing off our work on fractions, ready to start our new topic next week. The children have been working incredibly hard to grasp the concept of dividing fractions.

An excellent first week back year 6, well done for all of your hard work in all areas of the curriculum this week!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Where?	Who?
Jan 2022		
Wednesday 19th	Garsington Opera Workshop	Year 5
Week beginning 31 st January	National storytelling week Andy Copp – Fantastic Mr. Fox Billy and the Minotaur	Whole School
Feb 2022		
Tues 8 th	Safer Internet day	Whole School
Wk beginning 21 st	HALF TERM	Whole School
Monday 28 th	Back to school	Whole School
March 2022		
Thurs 3 rd	World Book day	Whole School
Wed 9 th	Y5 to Wycombe Swan (Echoes Rehearsal)	Y5
Wk beginning 14th	Science Week	Whole School
Friday 14 th	Red Nose Day	Whole School
Mon 21 st	World Poetry Day	Whole School
Tues 29th	Echoes – Royal Albert Hall	Y5
April 2022		
Friday 8th	Easter Assembly	Y5
Wk bg	Easter holidays	Whole School
Tues 26th	Back to school	Whole School