Welcome to Ashbrook

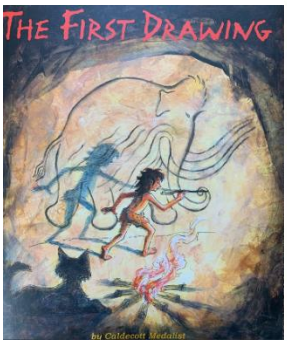
October Newsletter

What has been going on in class during the Autumn Term?

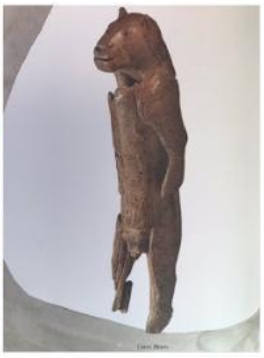
It has been a busy and exciting first half term at Ashbrook! All our year groups have been working hard, exploring new topics and developing their knowledge and skills. Here are some highlights from each year group.

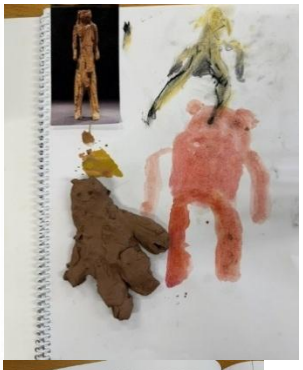
Year 3 – The Stone Age

Our topic this term is all about the Stone Age. This has included a History unit of work, a visit to Derby Museum and a visit to Marston's Farm. In Art, Year 3 have completed a wonderful unit of work inspired by the Stone Age, practising and applying a range of drawing, painting and clay skills. Here are some examples of their fantastic work!

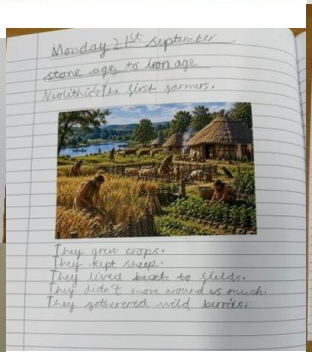


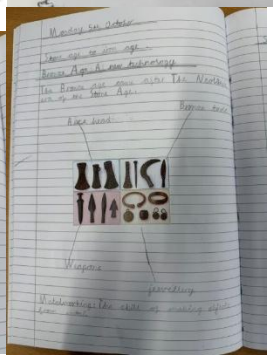






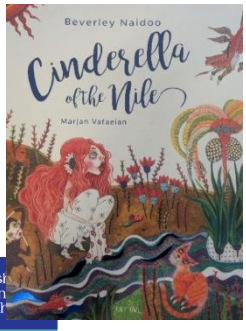


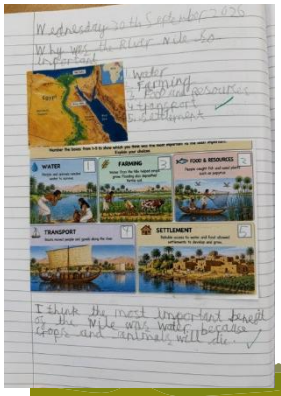


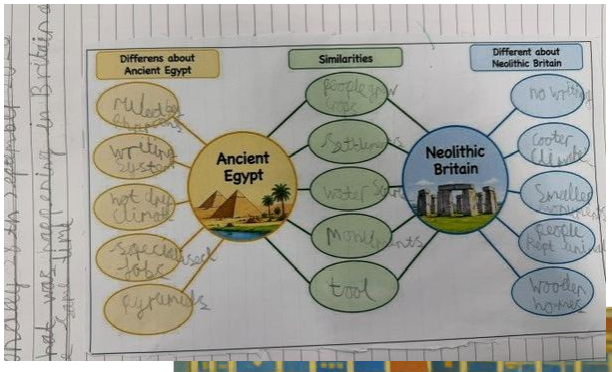


Year 4 – Ancient Egypt

Our topic this term is all about Ancient Egypt, which has included a visit to Derby Museum. In English, we have been learning through the text Cinderella of the Nile. We have also continued to practise our multiplication tables, building our fluency and confidence with times tables.

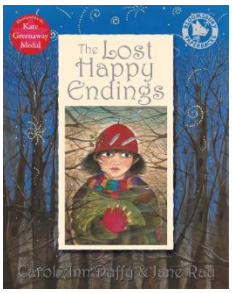




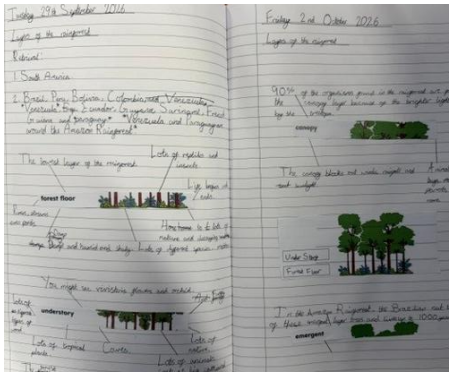


Year 5 - Rainforests

Our topic this term is all about rainforests, so focusing our geography skills and knowledge. In English, we have been reading **The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy** and developing our reading and writing skills through engaging with this amazing text!



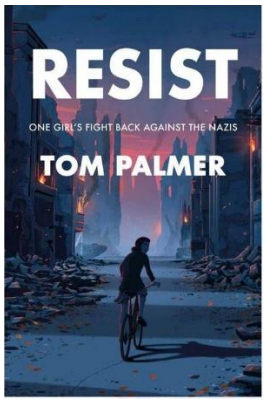




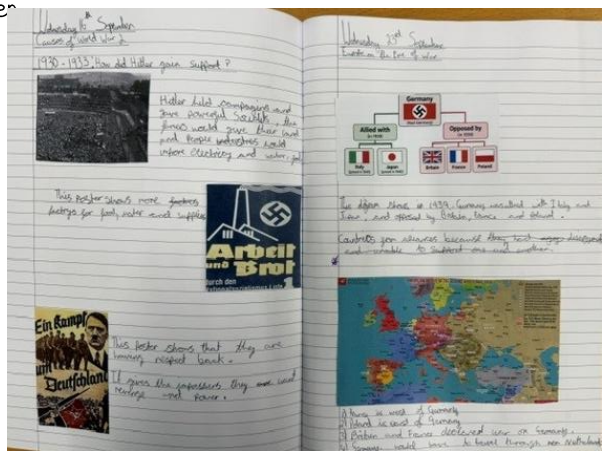
Year 6 - World War II

Year 6 have been learning about World War II, so far looking at the cause of WWII, The Battle of Britain and Early War in Europe.

In English, we have been using the text Resist by Tom Palmer.





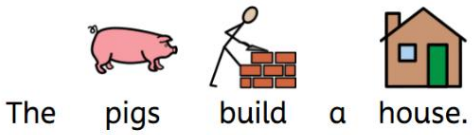


Across all year groups, the children have been working hard to produce high-quality work and take pride in their learning.



Whole School Events

The Autumn Term has got off to a fantastic start, with all children taking part in a writing and transcription project. Using The Three Little Pigs as our stimulus, the children practised accurate sentence construction, handwriting and punctuation. We know how important it is to get these essential skills right from the beginning of the year! We have now moved into our main writing units, but we will continue to maintain these high expectations in every writing lesson.



Dear Diary,

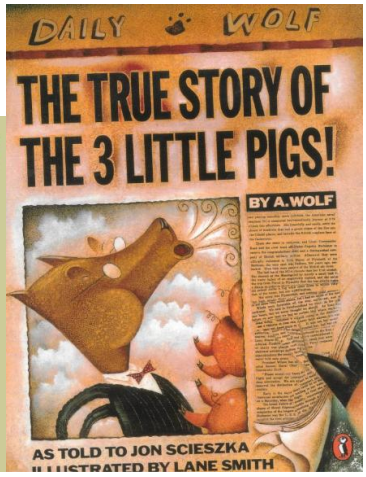
It's been a terrible day! Early this morning, I woke up with a horrendous cold but it was Grandma's birthday so I had to bake her a cake. Unfortunately, I ran out of sugar so I thought one of the three little pigs wouldn't mind giving me some. However, this cold has caused me some problems.

When I visited the first two pigs, my great, big sneezes blew their flimsy houses down and accidentally killed them both. I didn't want perfectly good food to go to waste so I ate them both up. Somehow, things got worse. When I arrived at the third pig's brick house, I asked him for some sugar for Grandma's cake. "Your granny can sit on a pin!" replied the pig. Well, I went berserk.

The police arrived soon afterwards and the reporters began asking questions. By the end of the day, everyone was calling me the Big Bad Wolf. Although I'm certainly not perfect, I never planned to destroy those pigs' houses or eat them. I'd simply been trying to bake Grandma a birthday cake!

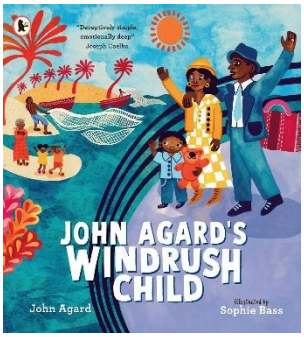
Alexander T Wolf





In PSHE, all children have been learning about families and identity. Working with our Artist in Residence, Shamila, they have also created artwork exploring identity, families, relationships and belonging. Our whole-school art gallery will be opening soon, giving families the opportunity to celebrate and enjoy the children's wonderful creations, which is inspired by artist Phoebe Boswell.







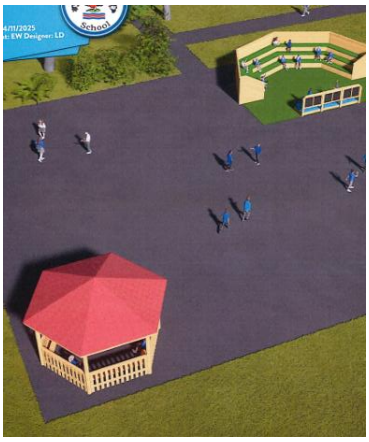
We have also enjoyed a range of whole-school events, including wearing yellow to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing, as well as coming together for our Harvest celebrations.

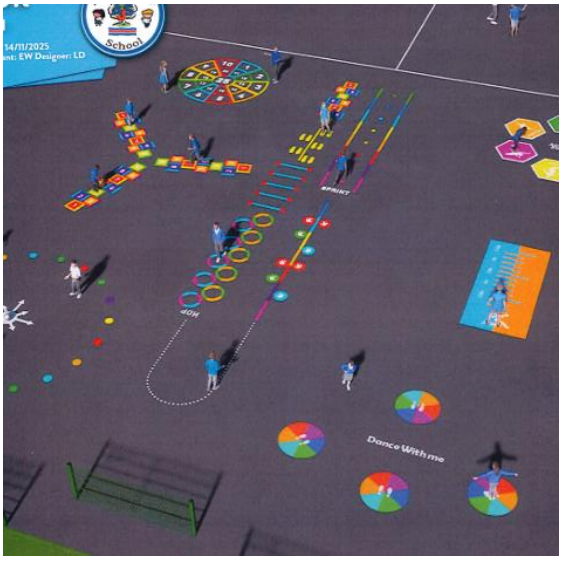
This month, we are also exploring Black History Month through our learning inspired by John Agard's poem Windrush Child.

Exciting Playground Works!

You may have noticed we have started some work on our school playground. The plans have been in place since last year for the development work and the children and teachers are SO excited its finally happening. There is a bit of disruption to normal playtime routines as the work happens- we are trying to make this as minimal as possible by staggering playtimes for classes when needed and using the vast amount of space we are lucky to have!

Here's a taster of the planned work:











Sporting events and achievements

Our children have been busy taking part in before- and after-school sports clubs, competitions and tournaments. It has been wonderful to see so many children getting involved, representing Ashbrook and demonstrating teamwork, determination and sportsmanship.

Here is a round-up of some of our recent sporting events:

Year 5/6 Boys' Football: We entered two teams, achieved third place overall and also achieved received the Fair PLay Award.





Cross Country: Children from Years 3-6 took part. Alfie Archer achieved overall 1st place for Year 3 boys race- amazing achievement well done Alfie.

Basketball Tournament: Our children enjoyed the opportunity to develop their skills and compete against other schools.





Year 3/4 Football: Our younger footballers represented Ashbrook and continued to develop their teamwork and game skills.

There will be plenty more sporting opportunities throughout the year, so watch this space!



What's coming up next half term?

Autumn 2 Clubs:

Our clubs for next half term are:

- Monday AM - Cricket
- Monday PM- Gymnastics
- Tuesday AM - Dodgeball
- Tuesday PM - Girls' Football
- Wednesday AM - Paceball
- Thursday AM - Basketball
- Thursday PM- Running Club
- Friday AM - Benchball
- Friday PM - Football

Key dates coming up



Monday October 19	Whole school Art Gallery
Monday October 19	Halloween Disco
Tuesday October 20	Parent /Carer Coffee morning- Focus SEND and Ashbrook Thrive
Monday October 26	Half term Break
Monday November 2	Pupils return to school
Friday November 6	Class Curriculum Newsletters out on Class Dojo
Monday November 9	Year 6 Holocaust Museum Visit
Thursday November 12	Children in Need
Friday November 13	Remembrance assembly led by Year 6 at 09:10- all parents welcome
Friday November 13	Year 3 parent stay and learn- Boccia
Friday November 27	Inset Day- school closed to pupils
Monday November 30	Assessment Week/ Practice SATs
Thursday December 3	Parent/ Carer Coffee Morning Focus TBC
Friday December 4	Treetops Reindeer Dash
Friday December 4	Family Quiz evening
Monday December 7	Interclass Christmas Kurling Festival
Monday December 7 Tuesday December 8	Parents evenings
Thursday December 10	Christmas Jumper Day and Derby Pantomime Visit
Monday December 14	Year 3/4 stay and learn - Christmas Crafts 9:15 AM Santa Visit- afternoon
Tuesday December 15	Y3/4 Nativity @ 9:30am
Wednesday December 16	Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumpers



Thursday December 17	Year 5 6 Christmas carols- 2pm
Friday December 18 Friday December 18	End of Autumn Term Year ¾ Nativity @ 2pm

Please note that some dates are still to be confirmed. We will share any updates with families as soon as possible.

Friends of Ashbrook

We are always looking for parents and carers to join **Our Friends of Ashbrook Group** and help organise events and fundraising activities for our school community.

Planned events we would like some support with are:

-Second Hand Uniform Sale

- Coffee mornings

-Organising a Christmas market

-Organising and helping at family quiz night

You do not need to commit to every event - any time or support you can offer would be greatly appreciated. It is a lovely way to get involved in school life, meet other families and help make a difference to our children.

If you are interested in joining Friends of Ashbrook, please get in touch with Mrs Priestly or Mrs Hadfield in the school office.

Finally, we thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely half-term break (when it arrives) and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another busy and exciting half term!

Ashbrook Junior School Team 😊

