

HIGH ERCALL NEWSLETTER

Be Kind Be Safe Be Ready
Respectful Resourceful Resilient
Reflective Responsible



Headteacher Welcome

What another lovely week we have had at High Ercall! It has been wonderful to see how settled all of our classes now are. There is a real sense that everyone has found their feet, routines are becoming established and, most importantly, lots of fantastic learning is taking place across school.

There has been a particular buzz around writing this week! In Class 1, the children have been talking and writing about their families, alongside continuing their work inspired by *The Colour Monster Goes to School*. It has been lovely to hear them sharing what makes their own families special.

Class 2 have been getting stuck into their phonics and English work. They are beginning to develop a setting description linked to *The Smeds and the Smoos*, and on Thursday they had great fun designing and creating their own spaceships to help bring their ideas to life – and they were fantastic!

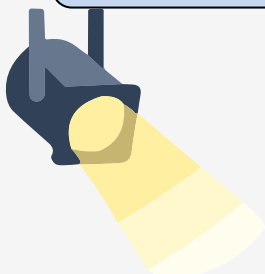
In Class 3, the focus has been on perfecting sentences, thinking carefully about how we construct them and exploring the different ways we can make our writing more interesting and engaging for the reader.

Meanwhile, Class 4 are immersed in *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold and are using this wonderful story as inspiration for their own setting descriptions. Finally, Class 5 have just begun writing monster descriptions. They have designed their very own monsters, taking inspiration from our whole-school work around *The Colour Monster*, and are now using their creations as a stimulus for some wonderfully imaginative writing.

So, as you can see, there is lots of lovely writing happening right across High Ercall, from our very youngest children through to our oldest. It has been a real pleasure to pop into classrooms and see the children settled, engaged and proud of what they are producing.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I hope all of our children and families have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Lingham
Acting Headteacher



New! Spotlight on Staff

This week, we are introducing a brand-new feature to our newsletter – ‘Spotlight on Staff’!

This was actually suggested by Mrs Machin, who thought it would be a lovely way for our parents and carers to get to know a little more about the fantastic people around school who support and care for their children each day.

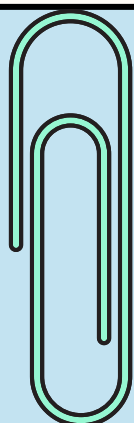
So, naturally, we thought there was only one person who could possibly be our first candidate... Mrs Machin herself!

Mrs Machin is our wonderful School Business Manager and has been part of the High Ercall family since 2019. She brings a wealth of experience to her role, having worked in a number of primary schools before joining us.

Outside of school, Mrs Machin has two children who are both at university and, as if that wasn't enough to keep her busy, she also has an incredible SEVEN dogs – five of which are puppies! We're exhausted just thinking about it!

As you can imagine, Mrs Machin is a very busy lady both in and out of school. However, no matter how busy her day is, she always has time for our children. She can regularly be found checking in with them, helping them out or simply having a chat. She is incredibly caring, and our children absolutely adore her – and we think that makes her the perfect person to kick off our new Spotlight on Staff!

Now the question is... who will be in the spotlight next week?



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Y6 EVENTS

Our Year 6 children have a very busy and exciting week ahead, with Bikeability, football and netball all taking place! We're looking forward to seeing them developing their cycling skills and representing the school through sport.

For Bikeability, parents and carers should already be aware of the specific date their child needs to bring their bike into school.

Please remember that your child will only need their bike for their allocated day, rather than for the whole week.

All children taking part will need a roadworthy bike and a correctly fitting cycle helmet, unless equipment has been pre-ordered for them.

Ideally, we ask that bikes are not left on the school premises overnight. However, we appreciate that transporting bikes to and from school can sometimes be tricky! If this presents a problem for your family, please speak to Mrs Lingham or Mrs Preston, and we will do our best to help with arrangements. It promises to be a fun, active and action-packed week for Year 6!

Meet the Teacher – C1

A reminder that our C1 Meet the Teacher session will take place on Wednesday 23rd September at 9:00am.

Please can parents and carers wait on the playground while the children are registered. Once registration is complete, Mrs Wallace will welcome you into the classroom.

We look forward to seeing you there!

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS – IMPORTANT DATES FOR PARENTS

A reminder to families who will be applying for a Reception or secondary school place for September 2027. Applications are now open through Telford & Wrekin Council.

Year 6 – Secondary School: Applications must be submitted by 31 October 2026.

Reception – Starting Primary School: Applications must be submitted by 15 January 2027.

Please make sure applications are completed by the relevant deadline.

Please note: for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), the application deadline is 31 October 2026 for both primary and secondary admissions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 20th October	Y5/6 Loudmouth Workshop
Wednesday 21st October	Harvest Festival and Enrichment Day
Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd October	PD day—staff training
Monday 2nd November	Return from half term break
4th November	Flu immunisations
11th - 13th November	Y6 Pioneer Residential Trip
17th November	C2 / C5 Parent conversations
18th November	C1 / C3 / C4 Parent conversations
1st December	YR parent lunch
3rd December	C3 Fire Safety workshop
Friday 18th December	Break up for Christmas
Friday 8th January	Young Voices concert—Birmingham

CELEBRATIONS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Our 5R Stars this week are:

- C1 - Nansi for being respectful and responsible
- C2 - Alanna for being responsible and resilient
- C3 - Abbie for being an all-round 5R Star!
- C4 - Logan for being resilient and positive
- C5 - Rory for being reflective and a lovely friend

A Fantastic £500 Win for Our School Library!

We have some wonderful news to share! One of our pupils, Roan, recently entered a competition with TGJones and has won an amazing £500 in vouchers for our school!

A huge well done and thank you to Roan and his mum – what a fantastic achievement and a brilliant prize for our whole school community to enjoy.

Mrs Lingham already has plans for the winnings! The vouchers will be used to purchase lots of lovely new books for our school library, helping us to keep our shelves fresh, exciting and up to date, with plenty of fantastic reads for our children to discover.

Thank you, Roan – we can't wait to go book shopping!



Contacting School Staff

A reminder that the best way to contact a member of staff is through our main school email address:

a2051@taw.org.uk

All emails received will be forwarded to the appropriate member of staff, who will then be able to respond or follow up as needed.

Using our main school email helps us to make sure that messages reach the right person and are not missed. Thank you for your support.

Book of the Week

Recommended Read – A Light in the Autumn Night

This week's Recommended Read is the beautiful *A Light in the Autumn Night*. As the evenings begin to draw in and autumn arrives, this is a lovely seasonal story to share together.

With themes of light, darkness, courage and discovery, it's a wonderful book for encouraging children to talk about the changing seasons and the magic that can be found in the world around us.

Why not snuggle up on a cosy autumn evening and enjoy this one together?



OTHER NEWS



Menu wb 21.9.26

Week 1	
Monday Pizza – Cheese and Tomato with a selection of toppings V Potatoes Waffles, Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Wholemeal Bread Swirl Mousse <i>Early Years options:</i> Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	Wednesday Breaded Chicken Dunkers Farm Assured Chicken Vegetarian Nuggets V Diced Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Fruit Topped Cheesecake or Shortbread <i>Early Years options:</i> Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers
Tuesday Pasta Bar – various toppings including Bolognese Farm Assured Minced Beef with a Chef's Rich Tomato Sauce, Cheese and Beans V , Tomato, Roasted Vegetables and Mixed Beans V Pasta, Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Banana Cake <i>Early Years options:</i> Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	Thursday Toad in the Hole Farm Assured Pork Sausages Vegetarian Sausage V Creamed Potato, Seasonal Vegetable Selection, Seasonal Salad Selection, Wholemeal Bread Apple Crumble and Custard <i>Early Years options:</i> Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers
Friday Jumbo Fish Finger White fillet of Fish coated in Breadcrumbs or Battered Fish White fillet of Fish coated in a Light Batter or Salmon Fishcake Star Cheese Paste Creamed Potato and Mixed Beans, Grated Cheese encased in Puff Pastry V Chips, Couscous, Garden Peas, Baked Beans, Seasonal Salad Selection, Bread Biscuit selection <i>Early Years options:</i> Natural Yogurt with Fruit or Fresh Fruit Salad or Cheese and Crackers	



Ripe cranberries bounce like rubber balls

Our 3 peaks challenge

We are very excited to launch our High Ercall 3 Peaks Sponsored Walk Challenge! Before Christmas, we are challenging every child to conquer three of our fantastic local peaks – Haughmond Hill, Grinshill and The Wrekin – and to raise as much sponsorship money as they can along the way!

The money raised will be used for two fantastic causes: helping our school to purchase new play equipment for children to enjoy at break and lunchtimes, as well as supporting our chosen charity, Bereavement UK.

Families can choose to complete the three walks independently in their own time, or come along and join school staff on one, two or all three of our organised walks. It's a brilliant opportunity to get outdoors, spend time together and take on a challenge while raising money for two very worthwhile causes.

Full details of our organised walks and sponsorship forms will be sent home next week.

So, get those walking boots ready... 3 peaks, 3 walks and one BIG challenge before Christmas!

Chill Club Collection – Keeping Our Children Safe

A reminder to parents and carers that the school gates will be locked at the end of the school day. This allows children attending Chill Club to continue using our outdoor areas safely after the rest of the school has left.

Parents collecting from Chill Club will therefore need to walk around to the Chill Club entrance. Please always collect your child directly from the Chill Club door, even if you can see them playing outside.

For safety reasons, we do not want children leaving the outdoor area and walking down the school drive by themselves, particularly as the area can become busy with vehicles.

Thank you for helping us keep our Chill Club children safe and secure while they enjoy their time after school.

School Holiday dates

Thursday 22nd / Friday 23rd Oct 2026 - PD days (staff only)

26th - 30th Oct 2026- Half term

21st Dec 2026 - 1st Jan 2027 - Christmas holidays

Monday 4th Jan 2027 - PD day (staff only)

15th - 19th February 2027 - Half term

26th March - 9th April 2027 - Easter holidays

3rd May 2027 - Bank Holiday

31st May - 4th June 2027 - Half term

Monday 7th June 2027 - PD day (staff only)

22nd July - 3rd September - Summer Holidays

