

Year 1
Autumn Term 2019

Welcome back. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer! The children have already shared their fantastic holiday news and have settled in really well to the new structure of Ash Class, which is really encouraging. Our topic for this term is **'Houses and Homes'**.

Ash Class

In Ash Class we encourage our value of independence and ask the children to take on greater responsibility for the changing of their reading book on arrival each morning, and to place the record book and new reading book on their table. We do remind them as they come into the room each morning! The structure is quite different to Oak and the children will have their own table places, which they always find very exciting. The children will have activities on their table to work on prior to the register being called at 9am; these may be a Numeracy activity, the writing of key words, handwriting and computer activities. It is important that they are in school on time to enable them to complete the activity.

You can find a timetable on the door outside the classroom, where you can see our daily lessons.

Mrs. Moore will be teaching the children Music and R.E on a Thursday. Miss Stephens will be with us every day working in Ash Class in the mornings. We also have Mrs Hewett working with us in the morning and Mrs Stevens in the afternoon.

Ash class has a very intrepid bear that likes to go for sleepovers and trips out! He will spend the week with the 'Special Person'. I would be grateful if you, or your child, could document his stay by writing a little bit in his diary about what he did with his new friend. If you could take a picture and stick it into the book it would be nice, but not essential. **The book and bear need to be returned by the following Monday so that the diary can be looked at and Ash Bear given to the next 'Special Person' who will be chosen that day.**

P.E will take place every Tuesday and will alternate between half terms on a Wednesday to begin with and then change to a Friday. The children may go outside for P.E. weather permitting and so will need suitable footwear (trainers are acceptable), black jogging bottoms and a school fleece or additional school sweatshirt.

Our Library day is a Thursday. Please ensure children have their Library books in school each week, in order to change their book if they wish.

Water Bottles

Water bottles should be in school every day. It is essential that children have access to water when they need it. Please ensure that water bottles are clearly named.

Homework

Once the children have settled in, they will receive a piece of homework every week. This will be to learn some words for a spelling test, these. Information on how best to carry out the task will be included in the front page of their homework book. The completed test will be at the back of the book so you can check their progress and see which words they need to work on, if any. Please ensure that they have their homework book in their book bag on a Friday when the test will take place. Homework is set in line with the school policy for homework and relates to the curriculum children undertake in Key Stage 1. It is therefore an expectation that every child will complete the work set. Please help your child to use a neat legible script using an appropriate pen (blue or black ink) or grey leaded pencil.

Curriculum

Literacy – the children will begin to develop their understanding of sentence structure. They will focus upon non-fiction, fiction and poetry. They will write for a range of purposes. The children will also have opportunities for speaking and listening during paired activities with a particular focus.

Phonics is a really important part of year 1 and the children will undergo a phonics test during summer term. Phonics is taught daily and the children will learn two new sounds a week, They will write words with the sounds and learn to form their own sentences as well as writing from dictation. Our weekly spellings will link to the sounds we have learnt that week. Children are encouraged to segment and blend each word, and have help from our very own Fred the Frog who only talks in sounds, as this will help prepare them for the Phonics Screening test, which children will participate

Maths – We will begin with numbers to ten, number bonds, addition within ten and subtraction within ten and then progress to numbers to 20. Children will learn new methods such as the part-part-whole method and use language such as more and less than, doubling, halving, ordering and estimating. We will also be exploring 2D and 3D shapes and thinking about positional language. Children learn through the concrete-pictorial-abstract approach and skills are developed and built upon. The children will be taught to work as individuals or as part of a group to explore mathematical concepts, to answer questions to consolidate their learning, have opportunities to apply their understanding in their work and self-check their understanding.

Science - in Science this term the children will be looking at Seasonal changes and the Weather. We will also cover plants, looking at their growth and how they change with season.

History – the children will look at how houses have been constructed through time and how the interiors have changed since Victorian times. We will also link this to our local area and look at how the use of houses has changed in the village.

Geography – in Geography the children will be learning about basic maps and how our local area is set out. We will also look at where Barnaby Bear has been and how far he has travelled and compare it to places we have travelled.

Design technology – the children will be using their understanding of the topic to design a model home.

P.H.S.E. – We will be introducing the model of Growth Mindset to the children and thinking about how we can grow our brains and understand the terms fixed and growth mindsets. The children will be thinking about 'New Beginnings' and how to maintain a happy and purposeful classroom.

P.E. – in Dance the children will be looking at different movements and creating routines with different themes. They will participate in Gymnastics on Wednesdays with MK Springers.

R.E. – Mrs Moore will take the children for R.E, the focus for this term is special places. The children will look at some religious buildings and think about places that are special to them.

Music – this term we will be learning about sound with Mrs Moore. The children will identify different sounds, and use sound in response to a stimulus. They will also learn some new songs, and in the second half of the term learn the songs for our Christmas production.

Art – the class will look at the theme of drawing and painting techniques. They will learn about colours and mix different colours to make hot and cold colours. They will also look at buildings and patterns within them and look at some of Paul Klee's work who looks at shapes to create a picture. The children will also make some of their own stained glass windows.

Computing- the children will be learning how to switch on the computer and log onto their area. They will use the mouse to move text and pictures and develop their understanding of using the computer to complete pieces of work, how to access and save information. We will also talk about internet safety and using the internet sensibly.

Please don't hesitate to catch me at the end of the day to discuss any concerns, or to clarify anything you are unsure of. I am unable to speak to parents in the morning; if you have an urgent message please speak to the adult on the door, or alternatively you can email me at egray@aspleyguiselower.co.uk. Quick notes can also be left in the children's red reading books, but please remind the children there is a note for me to look at.

My end-of-the-day routine is to seat the children at their tables and dismiss them to their adult when I see them. I hope to be able to recognise new faces quickly; please be patient while I link child to adult! Thank you.

Here's to an exciting year and I look forward to working with you all.

Mrs Emma Gray