

Ash Class Newsletter

Spring 2023

Happy New Year!

Mrs Searjeant and I would like to thank you for all of the Christmas cards and gifts. We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break and would like to wish you a very Happy New Year.

Spring Topic: Off On An Adventure

This term our topic is going to be 'Off On An Adventure'. In this topic children will be learning about different journeys and forms of transport. We will be learning about train journeys, space travel and different animal habitats. Each part of our learning will use a different text to help spark the children's imagination, and to develop their understanding. You can find more detailed information about the children's learning this term on the final two pages of this newsletter.



Tapestry

This term we will continue to use Tapestry to update you about things that are happening in school, and to post observations of your child's learning and development. You can also post photos and comments from home. Your child will then be given the opportunity to share their news from home with the rest of the class. If you have any issues accessing Tapestry then please let me know.



Read Write Inc

The children have now been introduced to all of the single letter sounds, and also some two letter sounds. This half term we will not be learning any new sounds but will be reinforcing the children's recognition of the sounds they have already learnt, and helping them to develop the ability to use their phonics knowledge to blend sounds to read words (e.g. putting the sounds together) and break sounds apart to spell words. Children will also be introduced to sentences, and each week we will read two 'ditties' in school. These ditties are made up of simple, regular words and children will also be introduced to some common words such as I and the. At the end of the week we will send home the ditty sheets so that your child can practice their reading with you at home.

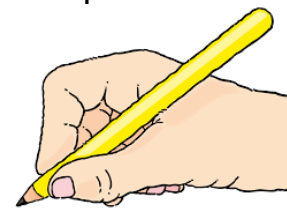
Reading Karate

The children are really enjoying sharing stories with you at home and are always eager to choose new books. We read with the children on a Thursday, so please could you make sure that their books are in school on this day so that we can change them. Please could you make sure that when you read with your child at home that you record it in their reading record book so that we can add this to their Reading Karate total. The children can collect up to 5 Reading Karate points each week. Once they have collected enough points they will be able to get their first Reading Karate badge.



Fine Motor Skills

This term we will be continuing to develop the children's fine motor skills, in particular we will be working on their letter formation. It would be very helpful if you could encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly with a tripod grip (see image below) and to form letters correctly. I will be sending home a letter formation sheet to help with this.



Zips!

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible but coat zips are proving to be tricky! If your child is unable to zip up their coat please could you spend some time working on this at home. Thank you.

Winter clothing

We will be continuing to use our outdoor learning area throughout the winter so please make sure that your child comes to school with a waterproof coat, as well as a hat, gloves and a scarf on cold days. It would also be very helpful if your child could have a pair of wellington boots that remain in school.



Woodland Learning

Ash Class will not be taking part in Woodland Learning sessions this half term. These sessions will begin again after the February half term, and will then continue until Easter.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

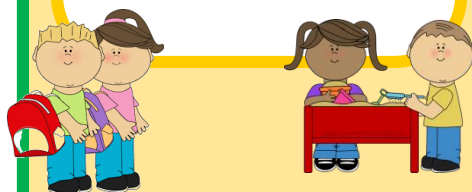
- Recognising different feelings and finding ways to solve social problems
- Developing empathy towards others
- School rules and behavioural expectations: understand and talk about expectations and the consequences of behaving in a certain way
- Developing independence including when dressing
- Understanding how to keep themselves safe (NSPCC PANTS session, staying safe when outside and knowing who they can trust)
- Understanding how to make friends, how to be a good friend and the importance of being kind

Communication and Language

- Understand and respond to more complex instructions
- Understand and respond to more detailed questions
- Be able to respond appropriately to why and how questions
- Retell a story
- Use story language in their play
- Express themselves effectively in different situations including group discussions (including using complete sentences and the correct tense)



Spring Topic: Off On An Adventure



Physical Development

- Able to push, throw, kick and catch a ball
- Able to jump off of an object and land with balance and control
- Move with control showing awareness of other people and obstacles
- Letter formation: able to form letters using a tripod grip and showing greater consistency using correct letter formation
- Use tools with control including some cutlery
- Draw with control creating recognisable images that include some level of detail

Maths

- 1 more/ 1 less using numbers to 10
- Representation, composition and comparison of the numbers 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10
- Length
- Positional language
- Number bonds to 10
- Combining groups
- Addition
- Weight and capacity
- Doubling
- 3D shapes
- Subtraction (take away)

Literacy

- Recall and talk about texts that have been read to them and use the language they have heard in their play
- Describe story settings, events and characters
- Recognise RWI Set 2 sounds (ay, ee, igh, ow, oo, ar, or, air, ir, ou, oy)
- Orally blend (put sounds together to read) and segment (pick out sounds to spell) words containing Set 1 and Set 2 sounds
- Able to recognise some common words
- Begin to read complete sentences containing phonically regular words
- Begin to write simple words, phrases and sentences that can be read by themselves or other people



Focus texts:

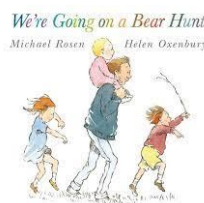
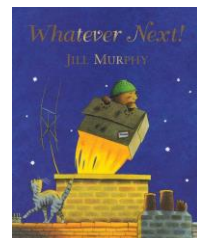
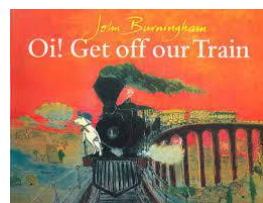
Oi! Get Off Our Train by John Burningham

Whatever Next by Jill Murphy

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers

Walking Through the Jungle by Julie Lacombe



Understanding the World

- Understand the changing of the seasons and recognise signs of Spring
- Identify where they live on a world map and understand that there are different ways to travel
- Compare different habitats (polar, rainforest and the area local to the school)
- Identify different animals and the habitats they live in
- Create a map showing a journey
- Know who Isambard Kingdom Brunel was and understand why he is an important historical figure
- Compare ways that people travelled in the past to how they travel today
- Understand what space is and how people travel there



Expressive Arts and Design

- Use tools such as scissors, moulding tools and cutters to change the shape, appearance or purpose of an object
- Use different materials and techniques: collage, painting, junk modelling, printing
- Add detail when drawing, including adding emotion when drawing faces
- Make use of different props in their role play
- Sing songs demonstrating more control when attempting to match pitch and melody
- Describe how a piece of music makes them feel
- Role play area: Train station and Travel Agents

R.E.

- Spring 1: How do the stories Jesus told affect the daily lives of Christians?
- Spring 2: Why is the cross a special symbol for Christians? (Easter)

