

# Ash Class Newsletter

Summer 2023

## Welcome back

It has been lovely to see the children back in school after their Easter break, and it sounds like they have had an exciting time, with lots of Easter egg hunts and visits to the farm. It is incredible to think that the children have now started the final term of their Reception year. This term we will continue to develop their concentration skills, self confidence and levels of independence. We will also introduce more formal learning tasks, to prepare them for the learning expectations of being in Year 1.



## Spring Topic: In The Garden

This term our topic is 'In the Garden'. For the first half of the term we will focus on plants. We will learn about different plants, what they need to grow and will look at how different plants grow. We will then move on to thinking about some of the mini beasts you find in the garden in the second half of the term, and will be learning about lifecycles. You can find more information about the children's learning this term on the final two pages of this newsletter.

## Woodland Learning

The children will not be having woodland learning sessions this half term, so they will need to come to school wearing their school uniform on Tuesdays.



## PE

The children will be starting PE sessions this term and will need to wear their PE kit to school on a Friday. The PE sessions will be taking place outside so, in colder weather the children will need to wear a tracksuit/ jogging bottoms and a jumper, t-shirt and trainers, and then once the warmer weather arrives they can wear shorts instead of jogging bottoms. If your child has long hair please can you make sure it is tied back on a Friday and that any earrings are removed. Our PE sessions will be led by coaches from Active Education, and will focus on listening skills, movement skills and team building.

### Reading Karate

Please make sure that your child has their reading record book in school on a Thursday so that we can change their book. We check how many times children have read at home each week and tick these off to show the children how many reading karate points they have earned, and how many more times they need to read before they can earn their next badge. Children can earn five reading karate points each week, so please make sure that you record any home reading in your child's reading record book. Any reading, including library books, home books and comics count towards reading karate points, so please record these as well as any school books your child has shared with you.

### Read Write Inc

This half term we will be working on developing the children's reading and spelling skills using the letter sounds they have already learnt. All children will now be bringing home a RWI book on a Thursday to share with you over the weekend. They will have read this story in school several times and will have focused on word recognition, comprehension and fluency. Please could RWI books be returned to school on the following Monday. Children will continue to bring home their class library reading books to share with you on a Thursday, but will no longer have ditties added to their folders. One of the things we are working very hard to improve is reading fluency. We are trying to encourage the children to read some words in their heads, rather than saying the letter sounds out loud.

We call this 'Fred in your head' reading (RWI has a character called Fred the frog). We are also working hard to develop the children's word recognition. Reading fluency is an important part of the reading process, and helps children to improve their comprehension skills, so it would be very helpful if you could encourage your child to 'Fred in your head' some simple, regular words that use the sounds we have learnt, when they read with you at home.



### Summer clothing

As we move into Spring and Summer, hopefully we will experience some warmer weather. If it is a hot day please can you make sure that your child brings a sun hat to school, and has sun cream applied before they come to school in the morning.

Thank you.

### Tapestry

Don't forget to check Tapestry for updates and information about what is going on in school. You can also add photos and videos of what your child has been doing at home. The children are always excited to share their home photos with the rest of the class.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Showing kindness towards other people
- Understanding what the word respect means, and how it is important to respect other people
- Understanding how to stay safe online, and what to do if something happens when they are using the internet
- Able to focus attention in different situations, including whole school settings
- Able to talk about healthy choices including diet
- Respond to new people or activities with confidence
- Approach challenges with a resilient attitude

## Communication and Language

- Able to listen in different situations, including when they are not being spoken to individually (e.g. whole school collective worship)
- Describe events in detail including relevant information
- Use the vocabulary they have learnt in different contexts throughout the school day
- Vocabulary: garden, habitat, mini beasts, lifecycle, caterpillar, chrysalis, growing, plants, roots, stem



# Summer Topic: In the Garden



## Physical Development

- Able to use different equipment with a high degree of control (climbing, bikes, trikes and scooters, balls, beanbags, hoops, balance equipment)
- Show balance strength and coordination when moving in different ways
- Be able to use tools competently and with control, including scissors and pencils
- Hold a pencil with a tripod grip and form the majority of letters correctly
- Demonstrate control when drawing

## Maths

- Number bonds to 10
- Odd and even numbers
- Spatial Reasoning
- Building numbers beyond 10
- Addition
- Subtraction
- Sharing and grouping, including finding half of a number
- 2D and 3D shape revisit
- Comparing and measuring the height of different objects
- Mathematical problem solving

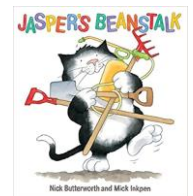
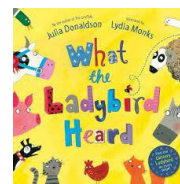
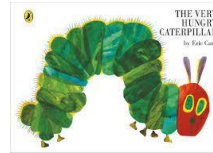
## Literacy

- Retell a story using story vocabulary, and their own words
- Make a prediction about what is going to happen next in a story
- Understand how to use non-fiction texts to find information
- Recognise some common words within a sentence
- Read and write complete sentences
- Spell some common words
- Accurately form lower case and capital letters
- Use a capital letter and a full stop
- Write for different purposes
- Use their phonics knowledge to read and spell words



## Focus texts:

- What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- The Enormous Turnip
- Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth
- There's a Tiger in the Garden by Lizzy Stewart



## Understanding the World

- Recognise and name different animals and plants
- Make observations and drawings of different animals and plants
- Recognise some different mini beasts
- Describe the life cycle of a butterfly
- Understand what plants need in order to grow
- Name some different fruits and vegetables, and understand how they grow
- Understand that animals may not always look the same as their young. Know the names of some baby animals (e.g. lamb, duckling)
- Understand that people have different cultural and religious beliefs, and learn about some different religions
- Identify places that are special to people within the community and explain why (e.g. places of worship)



## Expressive Arts and Design

- Talk about what they have created explaining the process, the techniques, colours and patterns they have used
- Perform songs, stories and rhymes with other people
- Recount and then innovate stories using familiar story language
- Build on their previous experiences and use these to create something new
- Consider the function of something before they begin creating, and create with a purpose in mind
- Role play area: Garden Centre and Nature Zone

## R.E.

- Summer 1: Who made the world? (Multi faith)
- Summer 2: What places are special to me/ other people?

