



P.P.S. Ash Class

September 2017
Autumn Term

I am special & Our local area

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ash Class and our exciting learning experiences for the autumn term. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer break and is feeling refreshed. Our topics this term are 'I am special' and 'Our local area'. The first half term will focus on exploring ourselves and what makes us special. We will identify our strengths and think about the qualities that make us unique. We will then explore the special people that inspire us and what qualities they have.

The second half of term we will have a geographical focus and we will be exploring our local area. The children will use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school, its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment. We will be finding out about different aspects of the rural life in Petworth compared to the city life in London. Children will use Google Earth to explore both locations to find the similarities and differences between the two different locations.

In **Science** the children will be finding out about 'Animals including humans' and they will identify and name a variety of common animals.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

They will find out which animals are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. The children will describe and compare the structures of different animals, and as well labelling basic body parts of humans. They will learn about the five senses and which part of the body is associated with each sense.

In **computing** children will be learning to use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content. We will also be finding out how to use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private. We will identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.

P.E. will take place on a Monday and Wednesday. Children will be taking part in multiskills lessons where they master basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination. In dance the children will learn to perform dances using simple movement patterns.

In our **R.E.** lessons we will be learning about what Harvest means to Christians. We will be thinking about what it means to be thankful for things such as food. Children will show their thanks in various ways including singing songs and writing Grace. We will be focussing on how Christians care for others especially at Harvest time and will show this by making fruit salad to share. We will then explore what do Christians believe God is like?



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In **art** we will use drawing and painting to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination. We will be making collage portraits using a wide range of colour, pattern, and texture, as well as drawing and painting pictures from our school surroundings and the local area.

In **music** children will learn about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch and will learn how to rap. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other old school hip hop tunes.

We will be focussing on reading throughout year 1. Children will apply phonic knowledge and skills as a route to decode words. They will practice responding speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes in preparation of the Year 1 Phonics Screening test in the summer term. We would encourage reading at home to an adult and this being recorded in their reading diary. For every read at home children will climb the class rocket. Each read counts towards Reading Light-years celebrated each half term.

In handwriting children will be taught to use lead in strokes to ensure that they form their letters correctly which helps to encourage the use of joined handwriting.

In writing, we will be reading *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl in

preparation of our exciting Roald Dahl Day. Children will role play scenes from the book and will explore some of the characters. We will move on to use our imagination to create different medicines and give them creative names. Later in the term we will be looking at traditional stories and identifying the different parts of the stories. Children will then have the opportunity to retell one of the stories, changing one of the characters or the setting. We will be rehearsing our sentences before writing and we will begin to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark. Children will use a variety of genre throughout their literacy lesson including instruction writing, poetry and diary entries.

The children will be developing their understanding of the number system by counting to and across 100, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number. Children will read and write numbers to 100 in numerals; as well as counting in multiples of twos, fives and tens. We will identify one more and one less than any number. Using objects and pictorial representations including the number line, we will identify and represent numbers and use the appropriate language to describe the number. Children will read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition, subtraction and equals signs. Number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20 will also be explored.