



## *Ash Curriculum Letter* *Spring 2017*

Welcome back! We hope everyone has had a peaceful Festive break. Below is an outline of the learning opportunities planned for your child this term.

**General information:** Children in Ash Class will have regular PE sessions – Tuesdays and Thursdays. For these activities children will need their labelled PE kit in school every day. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back.

**Homework:** We would encourage you to read with your child as much as possible and encourage them to complete an activity in their Reading Activity book at least once a week. Children will continue to be issued with a reading book chosen for their stage of development, which we will change regularly. They will also be able to choose a library book once a week and as they are the children's own choice, they may be more suitable to read to them or shared in a more collaborative way. Please make a note of any reading that your child carries out at home so that they can move up our 'reading rocket'. This will provide them opportunities to share their reading achievements, as well as earning stickers and certificates. Spellings and Times Tables will be sent home on Thursday and then tested the following Thursday.

**Thank you for your help at home, it really makes a difference. We are extremely grateful for all your continued support. If you have any questions, please ask Mrs Eade.**



**Maths**

Children will take part in regular Maths lessons which will provide them with opportunities to develop their skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will also be learning about money, length and time through real life problems to develop their reasoning skills and apply what they have learnt. We will be looking at data collected in science and drawing block graphs.



**Literacy**

In our Literacy lessons, we will explore information texts as our non-fiction work. Children will be making their own fact files about nocturnal animals. Our fiction work will involve fairy stories. Children will plan and write their own fairy story for a class book. We will also be looking at different types of poetry.



**Apple Phonics**

We will continue to have regular Phonics sessions in order to practice sounds and blending. This will not only provide children with specific skills to develop their reading and writing, but also prepare them for the Phonics Screening that takes place in the summer term.



**RE**

We will be learning about and retelling the Creation Story. We will be thinking about why this story is important to Christians and recognising that it is the beginning of the 'big story'. Children will also learn about the Easter Story and the meaning of some of the significant symbols that are particularly poignant at this time of year. They will think carefully about new life through familiar stories like The Hungry Caterpillar.



**Science**

Ash Class will be learning about the seasons throughout this term. Children will experience and find out about weather associated with each season, and explore the impact that different types of weather has on them and the world around them. We will be keeping a weather diary and children will interpret the weather data collected looking for patterns and link these to seasonal change.



**PE**

Dance is the focus in PE this term during which children will be developing their dance skills with increasing control and accuracy. Children will also be focussing on multiskills. They will take part in a variety of activities which will help them to develop different skills like balance,



## Music

This term in music, the children will explore how to use their voices expressively and creatively when learning a range of songs, chants, rhymes and topic related songs such as London's Burning. They will also be preparing for the Easter service.



## Computing

Children will continue to develop their computing skills, using Learn Pads and desktops. They will be learning about internet safety and the importance of being safe when using computers.



## PSHE

We will be thinking about the values of Respect and Responsibility and how we should respect others and take responsibility for our actions. We will be contributing to the Whole School topic of Rights and Respecting Schools, where we will look at the rights and responsibilities of children and adults.



## Art

We will be looking at hot and cold colours. Children will explore what colours they can make to represent hot and cold. They will be practicing their painting skills and brush control.



## Geography

Ash Class will be exploring hot and cold places around the World, like Antarctica. We will be looking at how the weather affects people and animals lives. Children will explore the world map and discover where these places are in relation to Great Britain and the oceans that surround them.



## DT

In the first half of term we will be exploring igloos. Children will design their own igloo and then build it from marshmallows and icing. Children will then build a model of a house from cardboard boxes for a display of the Great Fire of London.



## History

Ash Class will be looking back in time at The Great Fire of London. We will be finding out about when and where it happened and the devastation it caused. Children will be placing it on a simple timeline of historical events. They will be exploring what life was like then, including food, work and family life.

## Ice and Fire

This experience takes place from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January until Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Ash Class will be learning about hot and cold countries around the world. They will explore how the weather affects those who live in these extreme environments. They will identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. The children will be learning about The Great Fire of London and how it devastated the capital of England.

**Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.**

- To research and make a fact page about Antarctica.
- To create a small model of your house or a building in Petworth.

## The Circle of Life

This experience will take place from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 until Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The children will be covering their science curriculum through this topic, they will be taught to: identify and compare common animals, they will look at life cycles and basic food chains.

**Possible homework activities, please select at least one to do during the learning experience.**

- Make a fact file of your favourite animal or pet.
- Paint or make a collage comparing two animals like a pet cat and a tiger.