



P.P.S. Ash Class

April 2018
Summer Term

Terrific Toys and Going for Gold

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, Mrs Eade is off school at the moment and we are unsure when she will return. Our aim is for our children to reach their full potential. To ensure continuity in their learning, I will be teaching the class for most of the morning sessions along with Mrs Groves. In the afternoons Mrs Groves and Mrs Abbott will be working with the children.

We have a very exciting term planned with many opportunities for the children. For the first half-term the children will be exploring **Terrific Toys** to see how toys have evolved over time. It would be great if you could share your experiences with your child, especially your favourite toy and how they are similar and different to modern toys. I had an awesome Evil Knievel toy and Subbuteo, which look very basic against their modern equivalents. I aim to share my old Scaletrix and train set with the children, which I hope will grab their imagination.

We will be using the book *The Naughty Bus* to inspire the children and for them to create their own short story and film based on this book using PhotoStory3. We will also be exploring board games and by the end of half-term the children will have created their own board game with appropriate instructions. As instruction writing is a theme throughout the half-term it would really benefit the children if you could explore instructional writing and highlight all of the imperative verbs. Our writing will focus on writing sentences by:

- saying out loud what they are going to write about

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.

- composing a sentence orally before writing it
- sequencing sentences to form short narratives
- re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense
- read their writing aloud, clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher

My aim is to ensure every child is heard reading in school at least once during the week. Reading is key and the more the children do this the better, so I would appreciate it if you could continue reading with your child as it does make a difference.

As you may be aware all of the children in Ash Class will complete the statutory Phonics Screening Check, which will not worry the children due to the relaxed way we complete this. If you would like to see examples of what the children will undertake, practise tests and other resources please check out our class blog at

<http://ashclasspetworth.primaryblogger.co.uk/>.

As I am keen to ensure the children are active we will endeavour to complete Mr Neary's 'Daily Mile' challenge. We will also be gardening as much as possible to ensure we get a good crop of vegetables this year.

In **science** the children will learn about habitats as they explore insects. The children will be building a Bug Hotel and compare, identify and count the different insects. They will be finding out which insects are attracted to which objects e.g. bamboo, bricks. The children will also be building a stag beetle home and learn what a stag beetle larvae needs to flourish. The children will also be learning about materials, to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made; identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock; describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials.



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In **art and design** the children will use a range of materials creatively to design and make a board game as well as develop a wide range of art and design techniques using colour, pattern, line, shape and space while they discover the art work of Leroy Neiman and sketch their own toys.

In **music** we will be trying to create music compositions by playing tuned and untuned instruments musically as the children experiment with, create, select and combine sounds for our 'Naughty Bus' films.

Reading continues to be a priority and the children will continue to 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 Check.

In **handwriting** the 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.

During **computing** the children will be using Bee Bots to program around a course following the Naughty Bus. This is a good way of introducing the children to algorithms to follow instructions. The children will also be using PhotoStory3 to make a film, which we will share on our class blog. The children will also continue to learn how to use technology safely and what to do if they find something inappropriate on the Internet.

In **design and technology** the children will design a board game, which is purposeful, functional and appealing. They will choose how to make the board game and evaluate.

As part of our 'Going for Gold' topic the children will explore healthy eating and use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes. Hopefully from our allotment.

In **history** the children will investigate changes within living memory, focusing on how toys have changed since World War Two.

As part of our **geography** sessions the children will explore different national sports and locate where they are from on a world map.

During our **P.E.** lessons the children will work on enhancing basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching, as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination; begin to apply these in a range of activities including athletics and cricket. In addition to this, the children will be given opportunities to create their own games, which help other children learn the skills covered.

Our **maths** focus this term will be on multiplication and division as we reinforce multiples of 2, 5 and 10. We will be using a number of maths stories including Billions of Bricks; number—fractions; geometry—position and direction; place value—numbers within 100; measurement—money and time. Alongside these, we will be revisiting the maths we have explored during the year to further reinforce the children's understanding.

On our class blog

<http://ashclasspetworth.primaryblogger.co.uk/>

there are further activities should you wish to complete extra activities.

Thank you for all of your continued support in trying to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Mr Galvin and Mrs Groves