



## Welcome Back

Welcome to Ash Class's first newsletter. It has been so lovely to meet all of you over the last week and to welcome your children into school. These first couple of days have been very smooth and long may it continue!

As we have previously shared, Mrs Bendall will lead the teaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Mrs Younger will lead the teaching on a Thursday and Friday. We are both in school every day and will be welcoming the children at the gate every morning. Miss Loveridge will be supporting in class on Monday to Friday mornings. Mrs Bazell will be supporting all day Monday and Tuesday and Miss Krzeminski will be supporting all day Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs May will lead the learning on a Wednesday afternoon when the children undertake Forest School activities.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our main focus this term is ensuring that your child is happy and settled into the school routine. We feel that children learn best when they are in an environment where they feel safe and secure. They will be encouraged to access activities independently in both our indoor and outdoor environments.

### Physical Development

The children will have access to a variety of activities and resources to develop both their gross and fine motor skills to help support their mark-making and writing. These will involve playing with and manipulating playdough, using tweezers to pick up small objects and cutting out using scissors.

We will also be focusing on children independently toileting themselves and understanding why they need to wash their hands. Please encourage your child to put on their own coat and pull up their zip.

It would be really helpful if your child keeps their P.E. kit in a drawstring bag on their peg in school so that we can be flexible in when we do more formal P.E. sessions.

### Communication and Language

The children will be encouraged to share and communicate their experiences with their friends and adults in the class. This allows the children the opportunity to recognize how special they are as individuals and encourages them to form friendships and to feel part of their class as a whole. We also talk about families and who is part of your family. We do this in a number of ways for example through discussions, circle times and encouraging the children to listen and talk to each other.

### Literacy

This term, we will be focusing on the early stages of reading and writing. The children will experience a range of texts in order to encourage a love of books and reading throughout their lives. We will introduce them to vocabulary connected to books, such as *author*, *title*, *page* and *illustrator*. We will begin to teach Phonics using the Read Write Inc programme as the term progresses to help the children to read cvc words and some common exception words. The children will practice recognising and writing their name.

### Mathematics

This term will focus on counting, recognising and ordering numbers. We want to ensure that the children develop a secure understanding of the value of numbers so that they are able to manipulate them confidently when starting to use them for calculations later in the year.

### Understanding the World

We will encourage children to talk about the world around them and to think about why things are happening, asking questions to develop their knowledge further. In sharing sessions, we will encourage the children to talk about events and experiences in the lives and in the lives of others.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We will encourage the children to access a variety of resources which they can then use to model, paint and create collages. We will provide opportunities for the children to use their imagination in role-play and using a variety of small world toys. They will also have the opportunity to explore the sounds of different musical instruments and learn new songs and rhymes.

### Forest School

Our Forest School day is Wednesday. Please refer to the school website and click on the 'Forest School' tab for more information. This term, we will be learning Forest School rules, using equipment and tools safely. We will also be having our first fire and learning about hibernation and migration. We will let you know via Class Dojo when our sessions will begin so that the children can bring their kit to school.

### Homework

In order to support and consolidate your child's learning this term, we would like you to:

**Read** – Please share lots of different storybooks with your child on a daily basis for about 10 minutes. Your child will also bring home a library book for you to share together. These books will need to be in school on a Thursday as this is when we will visit the Library to change them. Later in the term, as the children develop their phonic skills, we will start to send home books linked to their phonic knowledge.

**Phonics** – In a few weeks' time, when we have started to use the Read Write Inc Phonics programme with the children, we will upload to Class Dojo the sounds that we are learning for you to practise. It will be very important for your child to pronounce the sounds correctly so please do follow the links when we upload them.

**Maths** – At home, please support your child by counting objects and actions such as claps, jumps and hops and spotting numerals in the environment around them such as door numbers and number plates.

**Website and Newsletter** – <http://www.overstone-wing.bucks.sch.uk>

Remember to check the 'Latest News' on the school website to keep up to date with what is happening. The school newsletter will come out on the last Friday of the month and will celebrate what we have been up to and will tell you what is coming up in the next month. This will be sent to you via ParentMail.

### Behaviour & Rewards

**Dojo points** – These are given to children demonstrating the school values, e.g. sharing a good piece of work or demonstrating good manners. The children will receive certificates to mark 50-point milestones in the celebration assembly.

**Sharing outside achievements** – children will be able to share achievements from outside school in celebration assembly, e.g. swimming badges.

**Weekly certificate** – one child in each class will receive a values certificate in celebration assembly for showing the school values.

**Governor award** – Termly the class will hold a secret vote for one person in their class who they feel has consistently demonstrated the school values. These children will be presented with a Governor badge to be worn on their uniform.

**Headteacher postcard** – these are awarded to children when they are sent to the headteacher for demonstrating good behaviour, completing good work and for clear evidence of showing the school values.

### Equipment

Please send your child in each day with a clear named drinks bottle filled with water which can be refilled throughout the day. Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat for school which is clearly named. Thank you!