



# Ash Class



## Spring 2 2020

### Spring is in the air!

Welcome back to the start of another jam-packed term. I hope all of Ash class had a wonderful break over half term with a chance to re-charge and are now raring to go again! I, for one, am really excited about the learning that is going to be taking place in Ash class this half term. By the time you read this, we may well have had our Learning Quest 'Boom' activity day (find out more below) which promises to be lots of fun and will hopefully spark the curiosity of the children and I cannot wait to share the magical book chosen as the stimulus for our new Literacy unit of work with the class. More details included further on in the letter!



As always, there is never quite enough room in this letter to share all of the wonderful learning that took place in Ash class last term but the Year 2 residential trip to Beaumanor Hall was certainly a highlight. It was fantastic to spend time with the children in an outdoor setting and each and every one of them were a credit to their families. All of the tired but happy faces on our return reminded us once again of how important these opportunities are so thank you to for making it possible for your child to go. I am really looking forward to taking our current year 1s next year. One year to stock pile the sleep!



## Learning Quest



Our Learning Quest this term is entitled 'Best of Britain' and we will be answering the question 'What makes Britain great?' Ash class will be finding out all about what a landmark is and the differences between a village, town and city. They will be finding out about the 4 countries that make up the United Kingdom including their capital city, flag and their famous physical features. Please do send in any books, leaflets, post cards, flags etc that you may have at home from a time you have visited one of the countries. As with every unit of work, our learning will start with a 'boom' activity and for this we will be having a 'Great Britain Day' during which the children will be invited to come to school dressed in the colours of the one of the 4 countries. During the day, the children will get to sample some of the traditional food, music, games and even dancing of each of the countries.

Our learning 'destination' will be to work collaboratively with Willow class to create a large scale map of Great Britain including 3D sculptures of some of its famous landmarks. The children will then use their knowledge to give a tour of Great Britain.

# CARE-BUILD-FOLLOW-THINK

## PE



Ash class will continue to be taught PE on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday** this term.

Please do make sure your child has their kit in school on these days.

This term we will be focusing on our health and fitness. By the end of the unit we will be aware of why exercise is important for good health. We will be learning to explain why we need to warm up and cool down and to describe how and why our body changes during exercise. The specific skills we will be learning will be ball chasing and static balances through floor work.

## Literacy



The term we will be using the beautifully illustrated 'Tell me a Dragon' by Jackie Morris as our stimulus for writing. This is an utterly magical book which is bound to capture the imaginations of Ash class and provide a hook for writing.

We will begin by looking the descriptive language used in the book and then use it to create our own dragon descriptions. There will be an opportunity for the children to create their own beautiful art work to accompany their writing. Following on from this, the children will write a story featuring the dragon they have described.

We will also look at non-fiction writing this term. The children will use the stimulus to create their own set of instructions.

Our Year 1 children will be continuing to learn how to spell red words and use a capital letter and full stop in every sentence. Our Year 2 children will be working on using subordinating clauses in their writing and on editing and improving their work.

# Numeracy

Our Year 2 children will begin the term by completing their work on division. By now, the children should be familiar with the division symbol and should be able to work out number sentences dividing by 2, 5 and 10. We will continue to consolidate this learning before moving on to work statistics.

Year 1 will start by looking place value of numbers to 50 and then 100. The children will be learning to represent the numbers in different ways using concrete materials and in pictures.

Year 1 and Year 2 will then join to work on measurement, including length and height and geometry including position and direction. Please do take the opportunity to talk about shape and measurement in real life contexts at home as this is when learning is most meaningful to children.

# Dates for the diary

## Spring Term 2

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Learning Quest ‘Great Britain Day’

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** – Year 2 Beaumanor special worship. All welcome (including Year 1 parents!)

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Day

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** – Easter breakfast in school followed by Easter service at St.Mary Magdalene church at 11.30.

All welcome to attend.

# RE

This term Ash class will be answering the question ‘*Who is Jewish and how do they live?*’

They will be finding out all about the Jewish faith as each week we explore a different question. Some of the questions we will be answering are ‘What is precious to Jewish people?’ ‘What does a mezuzah remind Jewish people about?’ ‘How and why do Jewish people celebrate Shabbat?’ and ‘What stories do Jewish people tell from the Jewish Bible?’

By the end of the unit of learning, the children will be able to connect what they have learned to their own experiences by reflecting on a times when they have said thank you, praised or remembered important people and events.



# World Book Day

This will be taking place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Dressing up as a book character this year will be an optional extra. As an alternative, we will be inviting the children to dress a potato as a book character. Hopefully a cheaper and easier option!

We will kick off the day with a Big Booky Breakfast in which you will have to opportunity to come into school from 8.45 onwards and enjoy a good book and maybe a bit of toast with your child.

The children will also be invited to bring in their favourite book on the day to share with their classmates. In addition to this, there will be many other activities throughout the day to help nurture a love of reading among the children.