

Curriculum Information

Ash Class

Autumn Term 1 2020

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Welcome to our first Ash class newsletter of the year. It has been great to have the children back in school - we are so pleased with the way they have settled into our class bubble. They have shown excellent adaptability in getting used to the new routines very quickly, and emotional resilience in coping with the return to school after the longer break.

During the first two weeks of this term the children's learning has been guided by our whole school theme "And how are you?". This involves opportunities for practical activities, discussion-based work, and outdoor learning to help the children feel comfortable at school again. Soon we will be ready to move onto our very exciting topic of Superheroes!

Superheroes!

History: We will begin by looking at our present day heroes. From here, we will introduce Grace Darling to the children as a hero from the past as well as other real life "Wonder Women". Together, we will find out what made her such a special person and why her legacy lives on in our local area.

Science: Children will become familiar with different plants from the locality. They will compare and contrast seeds and bulbs, and investigate the requirements for germination. They will also investigate the requirements of plants to grow and stay healthy. We will also look at our surroundings as the seasons start to change.

Design Technology: Children will use a variety of junk modelling materials to design and create their own superhero accessories. They will wear/play with their superhero gear and use it as an inspiration for art work and creative writing.

Computing: Children will receive individual passwords which they will use throughout the rest of their time at Swansfield Park. They will learn how to log on and sign off correctly and we will constantly look for opportunities to reinforce e-safety through discussions about password security and superhero secret identities. Once able to log on correctly, we will use programs to support our classroom learning. We will also use an iMovie app on the iPads to record mini superhero films with the accessories they have made.

English: English involves the development of speaking and listening, reading fluency, comprehension and writing skills. Children will have many opportunities to develop their reading and comprehension skills both in the classroom and during weekly guided reading sessions. They will also be able to apply their skills across other areas of the curriculum during their topic work. Over the course of the year, children will experience a range of narrative, non-fiction and poetry texts. This half term, we intend to explore stories and non-fiction, and use vocabulary related to superheroes and Grace Darling. *You can find specific objectives for the half-term on our class page of the school website.*



Mathematics: In KS1, our aim is to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with number, counting and place value. Our learning begins in a very practical way before moving to more formal methods. Children will then move on to explore addition and subtraction. The children's ability to 'reason' will be developed throughout all of their mathematical work as they are encouraged to explain how they have reached solutions to problems. This half term, we will be focusing on 2-D and 3-D shape, counting, place value, addition and subtraction. *You can find specific objectives for the half-term on our class page of the school website.*

Other subjects:

P.E. Rugby with "Bear" Gilroy (**MONDAYS**). (Please wear PE kits to school on this day.)

P.S.H.E. Being Me in My World - learning about ourselves and the school community.
Real life heroes: people who help us.

Music "Hey You!" - learning about rhythm and beat through the Charanga online music scheme and listening to 'old-school hip hop' tunes.

R.E. Stories about The Creation from the Bible and other texts.

Homework & Spellings

As we move towards a more digital way of working, and in order to reduce the number of items being transferred between home and school, **weekly tasks and spellings will now be detailed in the Home Learning section of our class page on the school website.**

Spellings: Spellings will be set and tested each **Friday**, starting **after half-term**. Please encourage your child to practise these regularly – little and often is usually the most effective method for long-term learning. The children will also get a maths skill to practise, for example number bonds to 10 or counting in twos. This will be set with the spellings and will be accessible online.

Reading: Please ensure your child reads, and is read to, as much as possible. We are currently establishing an online reading scheme for your child. Further details will follow soon! Guided Reading sessions will also take place in the classroom under the direction of the class teacher.

Other ways of helping your child:

- asking and answering questions.
- practising reading as often as possible.
- using the internet to research our topic.
- discussing what has been taught at school.

Additional items in school

Each child has been provided with a stationery pack this year so please ensure that pencil cases and equipment remain at home. However, each child will need to bring a clean, named water bottle to school each day as we can no longer provide cups within classrooms.

Uniform

Please name everything! It's also very helpful if you could show your child where to find their name on their jumpers and cardigans. Thank you!

Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any questions or concerns.
Mr Chris Rose

