

## Asfordby Hill Primary School

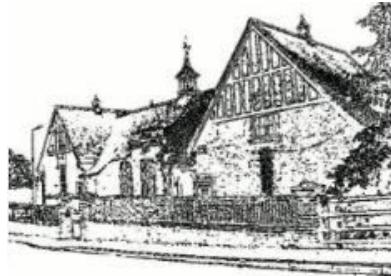
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Head teacher: Mrs P Millward

Chair of Governors: Rev Dr Nick Ashton

January 2018

Welcome back!

The term is now well underway having been kick-started with the children's very successful production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It was great to see so many of you in the audience. I'm sure you felt immensely proud of your offspring as you watched the performance. I would like to take this opportunity to re-iterate Mrs Millward's thanks to you as parents for supporting your child in learning lines, helping source costumes and getting them to both evening shows - despite the changes in production dates.

### Curriculum Information

Last term's Victorian theme will continue to influence our studies in many areas but specifically through elements of our reading curriculum (as we look at classic stories from or set during the period) and also in Design Technology where the children will be studying traditional fairground rides and then designing and constructing their own.

After half term we will begin to study World War One. We will be looking at the catalysts that led to the beginning of the conflict, explore a range of war poetry as well as undertake research into the conditions faced by soldiers in the trenches. Through this topic, the children will focus on producing a variety of evocatively powerful pieces of writing. We will be looking at a range of texts such as Michael Morpurgo's 'War Horse' and 'War Game' by Michael Foreman as well as studying a selection of primary sources from the time. This theme will be dealt with sensitively and will enable the children to reflect upon how life has changed throughout the century. If anyone has any memorabilia or family history/anecdotes that they would like to share, do please let me know. We have an exciting ICT 'Silver Screen' day booked for Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February which will help to launch the topic.

In maths, the children will continue to deepen their knowledge of number using the 4 functions as well as focusing on geometry, fractions and decimals. As was the case last term we will be teaching for mastery; an approach that deepens understanding and consolidates knowledge and skills.

'Types of change' and 'Materials' will be the focus of our Science sessions and the themes of 'Justice, poverty and wealth' will influence our RE and PSHE sessions. In PE we will be working



to improve hand-eye co-ordination through table-tennis and handball and we will also be challenging ourselves to complete the school 'Golden Mile'. The sessions will usually take place on Wednesday and Thursday but please ensure full PE kit is in school at all times as session times may change on occasion.

Homework will continue to be given out each Friday. Times tables will be tested on Mondays and spelling lists will be tested on Thursdays. Please encourage your child to read at home regularly and fill in their reading record. Your support in listening to and discussing the text your child is reading is invaluable as it helps them to develop their skills of deduction and inference. The children have been challenged to do this with an adult at home at least once a week. The progress made by the class in our 'brass' sessions has been outstanding as I'm sure you will agree if you were able to make it to the concert held at the end of last term. Please encourage your child to work on the pieces they have been given to keep up this impressive level of achievement.

I have been delighted with the progress made by so many of the class since September and look forward to discussing this with you at the meeting for parents that are held at the beginning of February.

If you feel you have a particular interest or expertise in any of the areas mentioned above, please do not hesitate to contact me or the school office. You would be more than welcome to join the Sycamore class!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Callaghan