



Asfordby Hill Primary School

Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray,

Leics. LE14 3RB

☎ 01664 812244

Email: admin@asfordbyhill.leics.sch.uk

Website: www.asfordbyhillprimary.leics.sch.uk



Head teacher: Mrs P Millward
Chair of Governors: Rev Dr Nick Ashton

September 2018

The new term has begun in earnest and it has been great to hear the children's news of their holidays. Thank you to all the parents who supported their children in completing the summer holiday homework tasks, especially the maths challenge regarding counting in tens, twos and fives. We will be working on and developing these skills throughout the year so any opportunity to refresh this knowledge will prove most beneficial.

Beginning and end of day arrangements.

Holly children will enter school through the door to the left of the main entrance (just as they did last year) and, at the end of the day, will walk with me and another member of staff from the classroom to the front playground via the side gate. If possible, please wait for your child near the side gate as they will not be dismissed until we can see you - or the person you have told us is to collect your child that day.

Reading and homework

Many of the children are now back into the swing of reading regularly at home with a family member. Being able to do this on a regular basis greatly enhances your child's reading progress and enables them to consolidate the reading activities they carry out in school, either with me or with one of the other adults who work with the class. Please do remember to leave a comment in the reading record when you read with your child as this allows me to gauge whether your child requires a new reading book or whether they would benefit from a little more work with the text they have. Clearly, it is not possible to hear your child read every day in school, but I do aim to look at their reading record on a daily basis. Those who have successfully read and discussed their text at home are able to change their book for a new one - even if they haven't been heard read by a member of staff. Homework other than reading will be given out each Thursday with the expectation that it will be completed by the following Wednesday. Progress in times tables will be assessed on Mondays and spelling lists will be tested on Wednesdays. Please encourage and support your child where necessary to complete their homework. Do feel free to comment on how well your child managed each task. It is important for me to know if they found something particularly challenging but it is also nice to know about those tasks they enjoy or are enthusiastic about.

PE and school uniform

Please ensure all your child's belongings are clearly marked, especially school jumpers/cardigans and all items of PE kit. It is surprising how much time can be taken up trying to find the owner of a stray jumper or PE shirt! PE sessions for Holly class usually take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and include both indoor and outdoor activities. Your child will require shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls for indoor sessions and joggers or leggings plus a sweatshirt for sessions that take place in the playground or on the field. It is greatly appreciated if PE kit can remain in school until the half term holiday when it will of course be sent home to be washed.



Water bottles and snack.

We encourage the children to keep hydrated throughout the day as it can get very warm in school, even on cooler days. Water is always available, but it is preferable if children can bring a (named) water bottle with them each day as this reduces the number of spillages. For this reason too, water bottles must be filled with water rather than squash or juice which can damage work and books if it spills.

A fruit snack is provided in school for the children to eat at morning break-time. Your child may bring in their own 'snack' if they wish but it must consist of fruit rather than anything else.

Autumn term curriculum

Much of our work this term will be cross curricular and so topics will include many aspects of the curriculum such as art, design, ICT and music. However, our focus in history will be based around the events of The Great Fire of London, The Gunpowder Plot and Remembrance Day. Many of the British Values themes (Democracy; The rule of law; Individual liberty; Mutual respect; and Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs) will be covered through these subjects. In geography we will be looking at direction, the countries and capital cities of the British Isles and United Kingdom and move to discover the continents and main seas and oceans of our world. Science will focus on different habitats, life cycles and food chains and RE and PSHE will be linked to celebrations in different faiths and within our own families; our feelings for ourselves and others; supporting and celebrating one another and the notion of rules enhancing fairness and democracy.

In English the focus will be to consolidate and advance phonic knowledge, letter formation and spelling patterns alongside the development of extended sentence structures and the editing of their work. The children will be working towards writing a series of connecting sentences and considering the most appropriate ways of organising their writing.

Maths will be taught through a range of practical activities, songs, rhymes and games as well as through written activities in order to achieve 'Number Sense'. The children will be taught in small steps of learning with the aim of them becoming proficient in the three main areas of maths: Fluency, Reasoning and Problem solving.

I look forward to meeting you at Parents evening at the end of this half-term and discussing your child's progress with you. However, if in the meantime you have any questions or queries about your child's progress and achievements, or about any of the areas mentioned above, please do not hesitate to contact me or the school office. Similarly, if you feel you have skills or expertise that would enhance our curriculum - or that of another class, please let us know. You would be more than welcome to join us!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Callaghan