

## **Asfordby Hill Primary School**

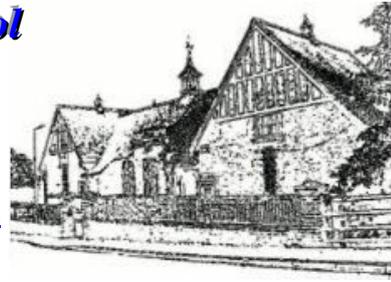
Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray,

Leics. LE14 3RB

☎ 01664 812244

Email: [admin@asfordbyhill.leics.sch.uk](mailto:admin@asfordbyhill.leics.sch.uk)

Website: [www.asfordbyhillprimary.leics.sch.uk](http://www.asfordbyhillprimary.leics.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mrs P Millward  
Chair of Governors: Rev Dr Nick Ashton

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back as we enter our second term in Year 1. We hope you had an excellent holiday together and are ready for our busy learning time ahead! Science week on January 21<sup>st</sup>: Exploration and Discovery, dancing on the stage at Melton Theatre on February 6<sup>th</sup> of are just two of the exciting foci we have planned.

### Curriculum Information

Our topic for this term is 'Toys,' the history of their development and personal preferences so please be ready to share yours. British values focus will be linked to democracy and mutual respect throughout all areas of our school day. In science we will be researching materials: identifying, comparing and testing. Underpinning this will be the acquiring the skills of working scientifically; using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. The children will be developing both their laptop and iPad skills as they research and record their findings.

Maths learning will include using facts and doubles to add 3 numbers, place value to order 2-digit numbers, saying what is 10 more or 10 less and understanding halves and quarters or finding half and quarter of amounts. To support them in using an efficient mathematical method, can you encourage children in addition to 'count on' from the highest number rather than starting from one. E.g. for  $2+5$ , when counting all objects, saying **one, two, three, four, five...six, seven**, rather than starting from **5** and 'counting on' or adding **six, seven**. Key questions could be  $4+2 = 6$  so what is  $2+4$ ? Can you prove it? A common misconception to be wary of is thinking that because  $1+5$  has the same answer as  $5+1$ , that  $1-5$  will have the same answer as  $5-1$ . Practical use of concrete objects helps them understand this. E.g. *If they have 5 sweets and then give their friend 1, can they do this? Is it still possible with 1 sweet and give away 5? Why not?*

We will be continuing our daily phonics lessons in support of the children acquiring their necessary life skills. Bespoke flashcards will be used to support additional phoneme help for those 'tricky for now,' moments they may be experiencing. Please use these as a daily reinforcement alongside their reading book. Your comments in their reading record and active support are invaluable in developing their skills. A minimum of 10 minutes a day of them reading to you and then a story to conclude the day would be ideal. Your child will read regularly throughout the school week, the person who hears them could be a teacher, learning support staff, or volunteer. In addition to this, the children participate in a guided reading session once a week, with me.

Year 1 grammar is the perfect time to ensure they have the skills of using full stops and capital letters to demarcate sentences, using capital letters for proper names



plus using 'and' to join sentences. Question marks and exclamation marks will also be introduced. English will also continue to be supported via specific handwriting sessions, composition and vocabulary in their writing and word reading and comprehension sessions.

Our weekly spelling challenges will continue, as these are a routine throughout each year group. All children will be tested every **Wednesday** and then given new spellings to share with you at home.

Fingers crossed that the weather is good this term, so we can get outside to do our PE.

We will be having a KS1 sports afternoon on a Thursday. This will include dance, gymnastics or games skills. Additionally we will have mini sessions during the week to develop our fundamental skills further. Please make sure your child has a **PE kit in school all week**. Please include leggings or tracksuit bottoms with a warm top and trainers to ensure we can still access the outside area. A letter will be sent home if PE kits are not in school, as it is an essential part of the curriculum.

**Home learning challenges** will be sent home on a Thursday and due back on Wednesday of the following week. These tasks are sent to support work the children have done the previous week or prepare for work to come.

### **Important Dates**

Science Week: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January

Dance Challenge: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Half term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup>- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Parents Evenings: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February

School Closes: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Finally, our doors are always open for discussions with parents both before and after school, either informally or by appointment. Plus, if there are any changes as to who is collecting your child at the end of the day please notify the office or myself.

Looking forward to our busy and exciting term of learning this spring.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Smith

### **Some websites to help at home**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

<http://bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths>