

Asfordby Hill Primary School

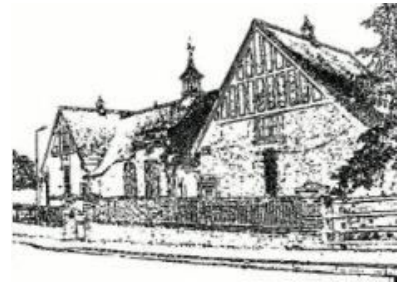
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Website: www.asfordbyhillprimary.leics.sch.uk



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term in Willow Class.

What will my child do in Year 1?

Your child will have left the EYFS behind in reception, although some goals may be carried on with them as they move into Year 1. This will be their first year of the National Curriculum. Like all year groups, Year 1 has government statutory schemes of learning to follow. The children will be assessed at the end of the year to see if they have reached the expected standard. All children are supported in order to achieve this and are given extra support and guidance if needed. Your child will be guided and supported by myself, Mrs. Southam and Mrs. Longley.

Topics and stories: Your child will be learning through a topic this year, which makes lessons relevant and exciting. They will learn English through all sorts of wonderful stories and they will also act out stories that may be familiar to you at home. They will plan and write their own wonderful creative stories, design posters and leaflets. They will learn to write in sentences and to use exciting language — all while improving their handwriting. You will probably be amazed at their development on your first parents' evening!

Phonics: Phonics is a big part of Year 1. Your child will continue to expand on their knowledge of phonics and will probably surprise you with just how quickly they develop their reading. They will do 20 minutes of phonics learning each day, just like they did in Reception. These are fun, pacy sessions which involve games and tasks. They will learn tricky words, spelling rules and how to sound out and blend to aid them with their reading and writing. They will be encouraged to 'have a go' at spelling when writing independently, by phonetically sounding out words. They will be asked to 'write it like it sounds' and, as the weeks go by, they will learn the correct sounds to replace those guesses.

There is a Year 1 phonics screening test in June, which helps us to identify if your child is secure in sounding out and blending graphemes. It also detects if they can read phonically decodable words. Don't be worried about this test. We will be assessing your child daily and will have identified any areas they need to focus on well before the test date.



Maths skills Maths lessons this year aim to be enjoyable, with plenty of hands-on activities. Your Year 1 child will count with objects and work in groups to explore shapes and pattern. Now that they are using numbers up to and beyond 20, they will learn to use a 100 square, number lines as well as a variety of resources to help with their adding and subtracting. Number bonds will also be reinforced. They will learn to count forwards, backwards, in 2s, 5s and 10s, and they will double and halve. They will do maths inside and outdoors and, because we work in a very cross-curricular way in Year 1, he/she will be talking about maths during other subjects, for example; while measuring ingredients for cooking (DT), drawing tables to record experiments in science or drawing maps in geography.

Beyond literacy and numeracy: There are a wide range of topics covered in Year 1, and your child will undoubtedly have their personal favourites. The topic for this term is entitled 'Noah's Ark'. It is a science led topic in which the children will be learning about 'Animals including Humans'.

Some of the Year 1 activities include: experiments, naming, sorting and classifying animals - including themselves (**science**); designing an animal home (**DT**); learning the **history** of things through stories and relationships within other curricula areas, e.g. extinct animals and about the local area we live in and the animal life that exists there (**geography**); dancing, playing games and using gym apparatus (**PE**); painting, drawing and more creative processes, including ICT for self-portraits and animal footprints (**art**). We also develop their social skills and empathy for each other during **RE** and circle times. During our **PSHE** sessions we will be learning about diversity and communities. We will explore democracy and mutual respect during our **British Values** studies. We will listen to and evaluate musical preferences through many classical pieces, including 'The Carnival Of The Animals' as well as developing musical skills through our school **music** scheme 'Charanga'.

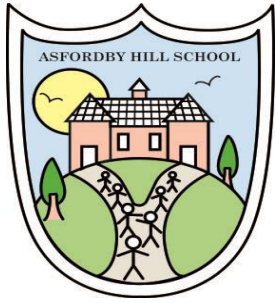
Your child will develop their **computing** skills - 'We are Painters' and 'We are storytellers' which will be applied cross curricula.

P.E. kits Please ensure that your child has both their indoor and outdoor kit available in school. We will send kits home at the end of half term and at the end of term.

Please ensure that ALL P.E. kit items and ALL school uniform, including coats are labelled. A simple initial on the garments label will help any piece of 'lost' clothing find its way back to its owner and will prevent your child becoming worried or upset over a misplaced item.

Homework Your child will have a half termly homework booklet to complete. Please support your child as much or as little as you deem necessary, with the completion of the tasks.

Reading books will be sent home, along with a reading diary, in which you can comment on your child's responses. There are many, many ways in which you share the book with your child. If you need some guidance, please pop in for a chat.



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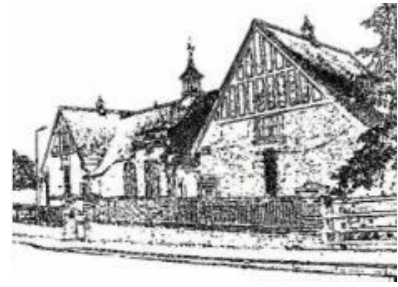
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Spellings are sent home on Friday each week. Spelling tests are on the following Friday and your child's result will be shown in their home spelling book. Please remind your child to put their spelling book in their bag every Friday for the test.

Year 1 is an important year for your child's increasing independence.

The days are so varied and busy, the hours just fly by!

If you can spare some time to come in and support us, you will be made most welcome. Maybe you have an interest in a subject area or maybe you would like to share a reading book with a child. If you would like to offer your support, please call in to discuss your interest.

Should you have any worries or concerns about your child during the term, please arrange to call in and discuss it with me.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs. Kettel

