

Asfordby Hill Primary School

Achieving High Standards in all that we do.

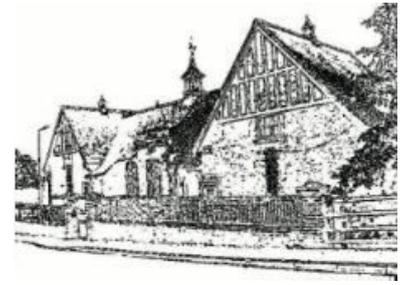
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Head teacher: Mrs P Millward
Chair of Governors: Rev Dr Nick Ashton

Dear Holly Class,

I hope you all had a wonderful break and that you are refreshed and raring to go. We have an exciting, but busy term ahead.

We have already leapt into this term's topic: Exploring Our World. We are going to become mighty explorers following in the footsteps of the many great adventurers who have come before us. We will be learning from explorers, their expeditions and the challenges they have been faced with. We will be building on last term's learning about the 7 continents and exploring the animals and plants that live in each. We will focus much of our learning on Oceania and Australia by looking at the geography of the latter and how this has had an impact on the current bushfires. We will be developing our curiosity and gratitude through scientific investigations, looking at the many animals, plants and habitats that have been affected by such devastating fires and how people are working hard to protect them. We'll even be using our learning to inspire a class project for the sensory garden. Oceania will also provide the context for our art and design this term. Our class will be recreating Aboriginal art and constructing "seaworthy" boats to navigate the many Islands. Teamwork will be key this term when we learn to play instruments together. We will listen carefully to each other, the melody and pulse as we recreate an Oceania inspired Disney classic on the Boomwhackers. With Mrs Jeffrey, Holly Class will be exploring what makes a good friend, how friendships change as we grow and the value of respect and tolerance.

In English this term, we will be focusing on developing our use of the 4 sentence types (statement, command, question and exclamation), expanded noun phrases and conjunctions. We will be applying these, along with the learning from last term, in our writing to create fluent, inviting reads that draw the reader in. As a class, we will be developing our ideas and writing through the exploration of quality models and texts. This term we will be using "Journey", "The Green Ship" and "Helen Thayer's Arctic Adventures" as narrative, vocabulary and grammatical models. Reading together is a



great way to immerse ourselves in vocabulary and to discover expertly crafted sentences.

This half term in maths, we will be focusing on addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and measures. A big part of this term's learning will involve looking carefully at the question and understanding what it is asking. We will be working to move children on to more mental methods of calculation rather than counting on. Any times tables support that can be given at home will aid learning massively, as will giving children real life problems to solve eg How much change will I get from £1 if I buy a packet of sweets costing 25p?

We aim to read with each child at least once a week. Ten minutes a day, devoted to reading at home, can have a vast impact on developing decoding strategies, reading comprehension and writing abilities. We are excited to announce our **class reading raffle**: each time a child reads at home they will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of each month we will draw a name and the winner will be able to choose a new book to take home and keep. This term the children will continue to bring home weekly spellings and times tables. Weekly spelling quizzes will take place on a **Monday**. You all have home access to **Spelling Shed** - a fantastic online resource to help children practice their spellings. Lists and games linked to our current spellings will be added every week. If you have lost your code or need help accessing the games, please find me before or after school. It is such a worthwhile aid to learning.

Currently, PE is being taught weekly on a Thursday morning as we have a specialist gymnastics coach. Please make sure your kit is in all week, so that we are prepared for any timetable changes as we will also be improving our fundamental team game skills eg moving in bursts of speed and direction, throwing and catching.

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At AHS, we pride ourselves on our abilities to celebrate differences and promote diversity and equality. Children's citizenship awards will be once again be linked to our school motto: 'When Lightning Strikes, Look for the Rainbow'. Throughout the year, children will be given the opportunity - both at home and within school - to showcase one of the seven rainbow skills in order to finally achieve their Rainbow Certificate. This will be a true badge of honour as those who gain it will showcase their ability to be well-rounded citizens equipped and ready for the modern world.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. Find me on the door or send a message via the office.

Best wishes,

Mr Amps