

## *Asfordby Hill Primary School*

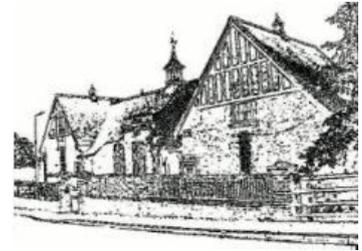
**Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray,**

**Leicestershire LE14 3RB**

☎ 01664 812244

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

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



**Headteacher: Mrs. P. Millward**  
**Chair of Governors: Rev. N Ashton**

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a wonderful break and that all the children are well rested and ready to tackle their next term in Year 5. We've got an exciting, jam-packed term ahead of us!

We will begin the term with a topic called 'Life Cycles of Plants and Animals'. Within it, we will be investigating different life cycles; we will be raising questions about our local environment and looking at the work of the naturalist Jane Goodall. This topic not only builds upon last term's learning about the human life cycle but, by revisiting skills and knowledge from last term it will ensure children are able to retrieve knowledge effectively and move taught material from short term to long term memory. As Melton Mowbray is a very rural area, this fits in well with our local environment and its geographical history. Throughout the term, the children will also be putting their computing skills to the test by developing an interactive game through coding and developing a web design. Hopefully these will both be published via our class blog. Geographically, we will be exploring our local area in more detail and examining how life in Asfordby Hill has altered over time, linked to mapping skills and the local economy. Again, we will be revisiting the use of an atlas, OS maps including grid references and compass point. We will also look at sources of employment within the local area. Within these topics, there are many opportunities for the children to develop their debating skills. We will look at some topics that have caused controversy, such as pollution and screen time; we will look in depth at the reasons for and against each action. In addition, the children will be applying the principles of printing to create a nature-themed piece of fabric artwork. They will use and then evaluate their abilities to use a variety of artistic techniques to create different effects, as well as evaluating, designing and making their own photograph frames for a special occasion. Historically, we will be exploring World War One through different historical sources and lines of enquiry. Again, the children will be relating back to previous learning through the use of vocabulary from Year 4 and also last term. Historical vocabulary will include empire, allies, tyranny, persecution and strife. It would be useful for you to discuss these concepts at home and explore their wider connotations. Finally, our French learning moves on to telling the time and using the children's long term memory to recall numbers, colours and words related to the school day.

In English this term, we will initially be focusing on developing the children's creative flair through the excellent book 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross MacKenzie. I know that they were fully engrossed in this novel when Miss Tierney read it to them as their class novel last year. We will be enhancing their use of ambitious vocabulary as well as being able to create cohesion within and across paragraphs. As a school, we aim to help develop children's writing through exploring quality models and texts. Through analysis of sentence grammar and structure, we can then create quality sentences that are cohesive and contain sophisticated levels of language. These sentences will be slowly crafted, with great levels of care and attention, and will come together to create a whole text. The skills that they learn throughout this process should enable them to recreate a text, of similar high quality, completely independently. We will then move on to writing a balanced argument, a



**Healthy School**



## *Asfordby Hill Primary School*

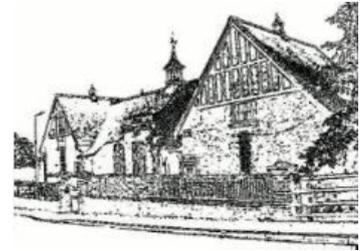
Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray,

Leicestershire LE14 3RB

☎ 01664 812244

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

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



Headteacher: Mrs. P. Millward  
Chair of Governors: Rev. N Ashton

speech on homelessness and finally 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Reading is a great way for children to be immersed in vocabulary and to explore expertly crafted sentences. Ten minutes a day devoted to reading at home can have a large impact on their writing abilities.

In maths, we will initially be building on from last term's place value, addition and subtraction skills; equipping children with confidence when problem solving. After this, we will be spending a good bit of time focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages. Within this, we will be continuing with our mastery approach to learning: once a child has shown that they are proficient in the skill and can apply it (fluency), we can go deeper by manipulating this skill when solving complex problems.

Throughout the year, Sycamore class will be getting to grips with what it means to be British and our associated values. The core values that we will be exploring are *democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty* and *mutual respect and tolerance* for those of differing faiths and cultures. We will be looking closely at what each one of these statements means and how it applies to the children and their lives. We will also be comparing and contrasting how modern governments have stemmed from ideas and actions initially formed by ancient civilisations and past customs. This will be embedded throughout this term's curriculum, for example, governments from the countries of the World War One period, mutual respect when looking at different places of worship during Religious Education sessions and our class novel, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Rauf.

Homework: please see this term's LEARNING FROM HOME booklet.

PE will be taught weekly on a Thursday and Friday afternoon. However, if the weather is good or I feel physical exercise will be of great benefit to the children at that time, we may enjoy PE on separate occasions so they will need access to their kit at all times. The children will also continue with their **brass lessons** this term, with lessons continuing on a **Thursday afternoon** so it is essential that their instrument is in school during that time.

~

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 personal development 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. Sycamore's focus for the first half term will be: **GRATIITUDE** and **UNDERSTANDING OTHERS**.





## *Asfordby Hill Primary School*

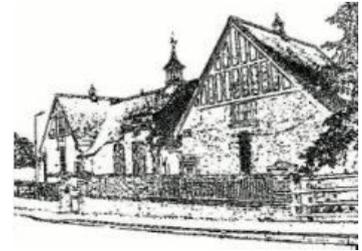
**Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray,**

**Leicestershire LE14 3RB**

☎ 01664 812244

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

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



Headteacher: Mrs. P. Millward  
Chair of Governors: Rev. N Ashton

All I ask from the children is that they work hard and persevere when things get tricky. This term will be filled with challenges but I have no doubt in my mind that they can and will achieve great things.

To enhance the curriculum further, we have organised our annual book week around the theme 'Heroes and Villains' and have asked representatives from the local community to come in to read quality texts to the children. I have organised an inter-class wheelbarrow competition - 8 wheelbarrows from around the world! Sycamore class have **Brazil** and the children will be bringing home a blank wheelbarrow picture during the half term holiday to design with family members. The more creative the better!! Hopefully we will also have the opportunity to visit different places of worship around Asfordby and Melton that will enrich the children's understanding of worship and expression.

Wow! What a full term! As always, if you have any queries or worries, please do not hesitate to pop in and speak to me.

Mrs Bailey