



Ash class newsletter

Summer 2018 second half term
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. Our topic for this half term is

AROUND THE WORLD.

We will discover different countries and habitats and learn how to interpret simple maps. This week, we will make our own passports and create an airport from which to travel the world! We would love to know if your child has a 'special place.' It may be close to home or perhaps somewhere that they have spent a holiday. Please talk to your child and send in a picture or photo that they can share with the rest of the class. Thank you.

Our class trip to **Axe Valley Wildlife Park** on **Thursday 28th June** will enable the children to discover animals from all over the world. Please refer to the separate letter being sent home next week, for more details.



Other important events this term include **Sports' Day** on **Monday 16th July** which will begin with our annual shared picnic lunch in the meadow, for children and their families at 12 noon.

Our final **Story and rhyme time** for Ash class and any younger siblings or friends will be held from 2.45pm to 3.15pm on **Tuesday 3rd July**. Please do spread the word and encourage new faces to join us. Thank you.



Class group photos will be taken during the morning of **Tuesday 19th June**. If your Nursery child does not normally attend on Tuesdays but you would like them to be part of the class photo, please let me know in advance, so we can arrange times.



Welly walks for this half term are booked for **Friday 22nd June** and **Friday 6th July**. If you are able to help on these afternoons, please do let me know. Thank you.

All of the children will be entering craft work into the village **Flower Show** on **Saturday 7th July**. Prizes will be awarded!

As the sun is now here, please may I remind you to send in named **sunhats** for the children and to apply sun screen lotion before school, if you so wish. Water is always available in class but many children also like to bring in their own water bottle. Please could you also check that names are still visible in jumpers, as they go on and off frequently at the moment! Thank you.



We always plan activities to develop children's gross and fine motor skills but this term we have added additional sessions to support a number of children who find it hard to hold a pencil comfortably and efficiently. Please can we ask you to look at the attached information about pencil grip and check which stage your child is at. We aim for a dynamic tripod grasp, where the wrist, elbow and shoulder stay still and the thumb and fingers bend to move the pencil. Fun ideas to support fine motor skill development are also included. Children who are due to start reception in September are beginning to write their names independently but please check that they are forming the letters correctly. As a basic rule, we NEVER start a letter going vertically UP (it's down first then back up again) and letters o, a, d, g and number 9 ALWAYS start by going ANTICLOCKWISE to make a 'c.' If we teach the correct formation in Ash, writing becomes more fluent and learning joined handwriting later on, will be easier for the children.

Over the next few weeks, we have planned in opportunities to ease the transition into YR or Y1 for our children. Current reception children will start by sharing story and snack times in Willow class and at a later point we will practise being dropped off and collected from the bottom playground on specific days - ready for life in Y1!

From this week, please encourage you YR child to deal with their own booksacks, water bottles, coats etc as they enter class in the morning, so that they gain independence. Thank you.

We have a whole school **transition day** on **Thursday 5th July** where the children will spend the day in their new classes. We also have an **Open Afternoon** on **Tuesday 10th July form 1.45** - so please do encourage any friends or relatives currently choosing nursery or school settings to come and have a look around! Thank you.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to talk to either myself or Miss Hansford. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
Sally Hunt.

