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Ash Class Newsletter – Autumn 2023

Welcome to a new school year in Ash Class!

It is such a pleasure to be welcoming all your children into Ash Class this year. We are sure that this is an incredibly exciting time for your child, returning back to school, reuniting with their friends, and re-establishing a familiar routine. However, we are sure that there will be some worries and a period of adjustment. We want you to know that the happiness and well-being of your child is paramount to a successful year in school so please do get in contact if you have any concerns.

If we haven't had chance to introduce ourselves or speak to you yet, hopefully we can do so over the coming weeks!

Our working hours are: Mrs Caulfield (**all day Monday & Tuesday, Wednesday a.m.**)

Ms Gould: (**Wednesday p.m., all day Thursday & Friday.**)

Renovations

During the Summer Holidays, we have been fortunate enough to have some much needed improvements to Ash Class! The work has included: new units and cupboards in our Art Bay, new carpet and flooring, and, much to our excitement, the 'nuisance wall' has been knocked down! We are incredibly confident that the children are going to reap the rewards of these much needed renovations and we are so excited for them to be the first class who will have opportunity to flourish in the improved space. We are sure they will be adding their own 'homely' touches to it over the coming weeks, inputting their ideas and creations into classroom displays etc. We are looking forward to showing you around at an 'open classroom' event soon.

Curriculum

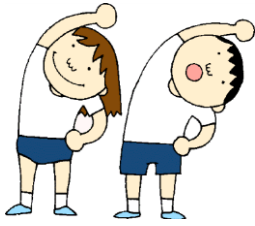
This term, we will be exploring our topic of 'On the Move' which focuses on vehicles and how they have changed over time. For more information, please view our Topic Web on the school website.

Reading Books

Children will bring home their reading diary and a reading book every afternoon. Please listen to your child read regularly (at least three times per week) - talking about the story and helping them with new and unfamiliar words and understanding. Children will need to bring their book bags and reading books back into school every morning.

We will be encouraging the children to use their independence in changing and choosing their own books, but if you feel that they need support with selecting reading material at the right level, please don't hesitate to contact us.





P.E.

P.E. will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, but it is essential that children have kit in school every day. Please make sure that children have suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor P.E. (jumper, sports trousers and trainers).

Homework

The suggested activities can be found on the Ash Class page of the website. The children should hand in any work that they have done at home on a **Wednesday**, to allow time for marking, before being given back on a **Friday**. Please help your child to complete homework tasks if they need it, but as far as possible let the work be their own.

Spelling homework will be given out on a **Thursday** in preparation for the following week.

Teaching Assistants

During the Autumn term, we are incredibly lucky to have Miss Trotter working with us five days a week.

Important Dates

Tuesday 5th September 2023 - Children return to school

Thursday 28th September 2023 – Race for Life and Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Wednesday 27th September 2023 - School photographer portrait photos

Friday 20th October - End of Autumn Term 1 at 3:15 p.m.

*****October Half Term*****

Monday 30th October 2023 - INSET Day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 31st October 2023 - Children return to school

Monday 6th November 2023 – South Africa Week

Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th November 2023 – Parents' Evenings

Monday 13th November 2023 – Anti-bullying Week

Monday 20th November 2023 – Maths Week

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December 2023 – KS1 Nativity (Beech and Ash Class)

Thursday 14th December 2023 – Singing Around the Tree and School Association Film Night

Friday 15th December - Christmas Church Service, Christmas jumper day.

Tuesday 19th December – End of Term 2 at 3.15pm.

*****Christmas Holidays*****

Contact with the class teachers

If you wish to make contact with us, there are a number of ways that you can do this

- You could send a message (written or verbal) with your child.
- You are able to phone the School Office, who will be able to help you or pass on a message.
- Alternatively, we will usually be available at the end of the school day once all of the children have been collected and this would be a good time to have a quick conversation. A longer meeting can then be arranged at a mutually convenient time if required.
- As you will have seen in the recent communication from Mr Horner, emails should now be sent via the school office (office.3082@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk), who will forward your message to us if necessary, and you can expect a response within 3 working days.

Reminders

- Water bottles – Please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunchbox) as this allows access to water as and when they require it. Please note, the children should only have water in these bottles (not squash, juice or flavoured water).
- Outdoor shoes – All children should be prepared for outdoor play by keeping wellies and a warm, waterproof coat in school.
- Please can you be mindful on the size of the rucksack/bag you provide your child with as space is incredibly limited in the cloakroom. Furthermore, large attachments such as key rings or cuddly toys are discouraged.
- **Labelled clothing** - Please can we request that **all** items of clothing are clearly named.



We wish you all a very happy and healthy start to the new academic year.

Best wishes,
Mrs Caulfield and Ms Gould

