

LUXULYAN SCHOOL

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Admin/Class Newsletters/Ash Class Newsletter Autumn 2020



Ash Class Newsletter – Reception and Year 1 **Autumn Term 1**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Ash Class! The children have all settled in well this week and are full of enthusiasm and energy!

Their responses to our learning environment have been brilliant and they are becoming incredibly creative and independent. The environment has been set up to enable the children to achieve great results in all areas of both the EYFS and Year 1 areas of learning.

Reception children will take part in daily continuous provision (activities which are always available to them) which will be enhanced with extra learning opportunities and challenges. In addition to this, children will take part in daily phonics sessions and throughout the week will also do guided, teacher-initiated Maths and English sessions.

Year 1 children will take part in daily phonics, guided reading, Maths and English sessions. Our afternoons will be dedicated to topic sessions, covering subjects from the wider Key Stage 1 curriculum. Year 1 children will also have opportunities to take part in enhanced continuous provision.

This term our topics are:

- Me and My Community
- Exploring Autumn
- Once Upon a Time
- Sparkle and Shine

Reading

Children will bring individual reading books home along with Read, Write, Inc 'book bag books'. Please read with them at home each day and write in their reading journal. Once they have read their book they will get the chance to choose another book from their colour band. At this early stage it is so important school and home encourage a love of reading, so children might sometimes bring a book home that they have already read. If they do this, it is because they enjoyed that book and would like to read it again! We operate a system whereby children move up to the next colour band as soon as they are ready, so do not need to read every book in the band before we move them on. Within class, we regularly hear children read individually through our teacher-initiated Guided Reading sessions (Year 1) or by

reading their home reading book to an adult (Reception). Book bags need to be in school every day.

Indoor and Outdoor Learning

Our outdoor environment means that our children go outside in all weathers. They are all provided with waterproof trousers but still need to bring a waterproof coat and wellies. Please provide a pair of labelled wellies that can be left in school at all times. P.E. will be on Monday afternoons. This year we would like your child to come to school dressed and ready for P.E. This will mean that they can maximise the time for physical activity. Please also remember that earrings should not be worn on a PE day and long hair should be tied back.

Tapestry/Class Dojo

Tapestry Learning Journal will be the main activity recording system for our Reception children. It is a fantastic tool that you can use to stay up to date with your child's learning. Your interaction with your child's Tapestry journal is so important. As parents, you are able to comment on your child's school based observations, as well as use it to spark discussion with your child about their learning. Tapestry will be used by teaching staff as an assessment tool for EYFS. Please use Class Dojo for your own observations and communication with us.

We look forward to sharing all that we get up to in Ash Class via our Class Dojo page. Whole school information and news will also be visible to you on Dojo. All children have their own portfolio on Dojo, where you can upload photos and videos to share with us. There is also a direct messaging facility. Please be aware that we may not be able to view or reply to these messages promptly, so contact the school office if you have a question or issue which needs dealing with immediately. School staff will endeavour to reply to you on Class Dojo on the same or next working day, bearing in mind teaching staff working days.

We have sent out letters and email links inviting parents to activate their Class Dojo account. Please let us know if you have any problem doing this and we can send out another link if needed.

Health and wellbeing

Children must bring a bottle to school every day. These should be filled with water only. We will refill bottles with water as needed throughout the day. Please check drinks bottles for a secure seal. Fruit snack is provided in class, free of charge, so they do not need to bring their own snack.

All Reception and Year 1 age children are provided with free, healthy and nutritious school meals. If you prefer to send your child with a packed lunch please don't send too much initially, and think "Healthy!" e.g. starchy carbohydrates such as a sandwich or pasta, yoghurt, at least one portion of fruit vegetables and a small biscuit.

In Ash Class, children are active and on the go all day long. Our day is interspersed with short dance, fitness, yoga and mindfulness breaks, alongside the extensive opportunities for outdoor play and weekly P.E. sessions.

If you have any queries or concerns, please speak to a member of staff. We are always available at 8.30am, at the end of the day or on Class Dojo and would be pleased to discuss any questions you might have. Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to a great year!

Yours faithfully,

Miss G Illsley, Mrs S Berry, Mrs M Fox and Mrs J Tonkin
Ash Class Team