



# Ash class newsletter

First half of Spring term 2024

Mrs Hunt

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Dear Parents and Carers,

**Happy New Year!** Welcome back to school and an extra warm welcome to our new children and families. We look forward to getting to know you and working together.



This half term we will base our learning around the **Chinese New Year**. The children will discover the story behind the celebration and look for similarities and differences between traditional Chinese and British cultures. The children will develop their spatial awareness skills, including extending their vocabulary to describe position and investigating early mapping skills. We will explore Chinese music and dance and hope to invite you all in to class to share our learning from **2.40pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February**. More details to follow.

As Mrs Legg has mentioned in her newsletter, the whole school will be focusing on **Normal Magic's 10-a-day** strategies to balance our emotional wellbeing, across this term. This links well with our '**Chat time**' sessions, that encourage speaking and listening skills, which will focus on sharing our likes and dislikes. Similarly, Reception children will learn about **Smarty the penguin, internet safety and sensible amounts of screen time**, this half term, again supporting messages about health and wellbeing.



Nursery children will work on recognising **rhyming words**, with Reception children extending their phonic skills for reading and writing. **Maths** activities for all, will cover measurement of length, mass, capacity and time, as well as extending an understanding of numbers to 10. Please do take a look at the **attached leaflet** on supporting your child with early maths skills - you may be surprised how much maths you are doing at home, every day!

**All** Ash parents and any local parents and carers with pre-school aged children are invited to join our class, from **2.40pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January** for **Story and Rhyme Time**. Nursery children who do not attend on Thursdays, are also very welcome to come along with an adult.



Your child's '**Red Book**' is a great record of their progress and if you have not already done so, we would appreciate the opportunity to look at it, alongside their **2 year progress check** please. These documents help us to build a better picture of your child and to be aware of any support that may be required. If you drop them in to school, we promise to get them back to you for the end of the day. The system for undertaking 2 year old Health and Development Reviews has recently changed and so we will be chatting with you individually about this, if your child joins us this academic year, as a Rising 3 year old.

Similarly, if your child's **medical needs** have changed, please could you ensure you let us know, so that we are able to care for them appropriately. Thank you.

Finally, please do come and ask if you have any queries, big or small. The end of the school day is often more convenient and private but if it is urgent please do not hesitate to contact me or see Miss Hansford, Mrs Jordan (Ash Teaching Assistants) or Mrs Sutton (teacher on Fridays), in the mornings. We are all here to listen and help, if we can.

Looking forward to working with you and your child,  
Kind regards,  
Sally Hunt