



Ash class newsletter

Summer 2025 second half term

Mrs Hunt

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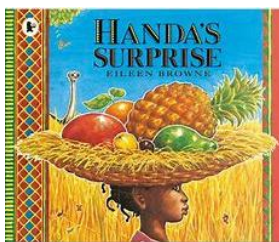


Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a busy second half of term and a warm welcome to Grace and her family. We look forward to getting to know you well.

To ensure we can make the most of being outside, over the next few weeks, please send your child to school with a **lightweight waterproof coat, water-bottle and a named sunhat**, every day. Please feel free to apply sun cream before school, as necessary. We also ask that nursery children wear comfortable shoes that they are able to run freely in. Thank you.

Our theme this half term is **Away we go!** We will be learning about different habitats and countries of the world, comparing landscapes, climate, plants and animals and maybe taking a pretend air flight or two. We will develop our mapping skills and find out about the people who live in other countries, through photos, artwork and music. We will also explore areas such as floating, sinking and sound. Please refer to the **Spatial Reasoning Toolkits** attached, that outline the progression in children's skills, as they build, play and problem solve.



As well as rehearsing dance sequences, we will hone our throwing, catching and kicking skills, whilst preparing for **Sports' Day on Tuesday 24th June (or Tuesday 1st July as a reserve date)**.

Key maths and literacy skills will be consolidated and all children will be encouraged to mark make, colour, draw and 'write.' We will also be monitoring the progress of seeds we have planted and recapping plant and animal **life cycles**, as we observe their next stages.

We will also be spending time preparing the children for changes in September, including the **transition to YR or Y1**. Current reception children will have numerous opportunities to spend time with the Willow teaching team and to become familiar with their next class. Likewise, children transitioning to YR, have been working towards greater independence, including with toileting, as well as undertaking early phonics sessions (hearing rhyming words, isolating the initial sound in a word in games like I Spy, or orally blending sounds together to make words **without** looking at letters on a page). They have also developed their confidence in correctly forming the letters in their names, by learning the letter formation rhymes and consolidated their counting and number recognition skills.

The Government recently published some advice on helping your child to be 'Reception ready.' This link takes you to a helpful websites that outlines the main areas, including physical and emotional readiness. [Home - Starting Reception](#) Please do come and chat if you have any queries.

Thinking ahead, the PTFA have a large stock of used school uniform available and if you would like any further details about **PE kits, used or new uniform**, please let me know. We do suggest that the children have Velcro trainers for PE sessions, rather than slip on pumps or trainers with laces but you do not need to provide a separate pair to keep in school, as we know how quickly little feet grow! Most pupils either wear them on 'Big PE' day or bring them in.

School dinners are free to all Reception and KS1 children, so please take a look at the school dinner menus for September when they are issued.

The current Reception children will continue to take turns to have **Spotty dog** home for a weekend sleepover. Sharing the events of the weekend is another great opportunity to practise speaking and listening skills, for everyone involved.

Weather permitting, we hope to have **welly walks** to Offwell woods on the **afternoons of Thursday 19th June and Monday 14th July**. Please send your child in with wellies in a plastic bag, a lightweight waterproof coat (or sunhat and sun cream if the weather changes) and other clothes to change into, if you would prefer them not to wear their uniform. We will need at least **2 adult helpers** to accompany us, in order for the walk to go ahead, please let us know if you are available. Many thanks.



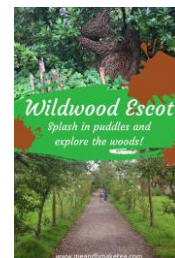
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We will also re-visit Cleave farm on the morning of **Tuesday 1st July**, to see how things have changed, now that it is Summer. If your child attends on Tuesdays, please look out for a permission slip being sent home nearer the time. We are so fortunate to have such a valuable, educational resource literally 10 minutes from school and totally free! Many thanks again to Rachel and Nick for securing funding and running these brilliant sessions.



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 12th June and Thursday 10th July** for **Story and Rhyme Time**. Nursery children who do not attend on Thursdays, are also very welcome to come along with an adult.

Our **class trip** will be to **Wildwood at Escot on Thursday 17th July**. Those of you whose children do not normally attend on Thursdays will have received an email from me, last week, inviting you to bring your child along and spend the day with us, at a reduced admission rate for you both. If you haven't already done so, please can you let me know by Friday (6th) if you will, or will not be joining us, as I need to confirm numbers for our booking. Many thanks. Watch out for further information being sent to everyone nearer the time.



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 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. Please note that if you require an in depth sight or hearing check for your child, this now has to be done via your **GP**, but please come and talk to us if you have any concerns.

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