



P.P.S. Ash Class

September 2021
Autumn Term

All about me and Petworth

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome to Ash Class, I hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday and enjoyed the sunshine (such as it was)! I am thrilled to be teaching your children and am excited to be part of their learning journey at Petworth Primary.

Although your child will notice some changes in their school experience, we hope the transition will be smooth and they enjoy the new challenges. Initially we will still have free flow activities available in the afternoon, in our "Discover and Do" sessions. Year 1 also have responsibility for some of the animals in school and their care links closely to our science curriculum. We also use time each week to grow, and cook with what we have grown, and to take part in outdoor learning sessions. These also link closely to our science curriculum and help inform the children about the environment that they live in.

In Year 1 children will have Maths and English lessons daily. These are made up of many elements and initially much of the learning is hands on. When we start school, our English lessons will be to revisit Traditional and Fairy tales, and children will be acting them and performing them in small groups which helps them have a strong understanding of the sequence of events in a story. We will be writing for different purposes and following instructions, and we will definitely be getting into the school kitchen so the children can follow some recipes! The children will also start to learn

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

some of the key building blocks of writing the language—what certain words do, for example verbs and adjectives—as well as basic punctuation. Please do not worry if you do not see your child using these things in their free writing, just encourage them to write if they want to!

Alongside this we will be looking at elements of writing like nouns, verbs and adjectives, and practising our handwriting.

Phonics will be taught daily, and as the year progresses, spellings linked to phonics will be set weekly.

In Maths we will be working on place values—how numbers are made up of tens and ones. From this we will be looking and adding and taking away and recognising shapes. Children will be learning numbers to twenty—reading them, writing them and learning what they look like pictorially. You can help your child by pointing out numbers as you go around town, or at home. For example, 6 eggs, 2 shoes, 4 bowls on the table etc.

We will be using Numicon as well as other equipment in our Mathematics, to help our understanding of numbers.

Our learning about ourselves will involve lots of science, thinking about what is alive and how things grow. We will start the unit by thinking about how we change as we grow and we will be asking children to bring in a photo of themselves as a baby, to share with the class. We will be thinking about how we will change over time and how we might look and what we might do when we are adults.

When we start learning about Petworth we will be getting out and about in town, looking at the shops and facilities that are available. We will (weather permitting) be going to Petworth Park to learn to paint like Turner and our role play area will be transformed into one of the shops in town. This will give them great opportunities for cross curricular learning linking to Maths and English.

A photograph of Petworth House, a large, historic stone building with many windows, set in a green landscape under a blue sky.

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Restrictions permitting, we hope to welcome the Petworth Society into school, to talk to us about how Petworth has changed

This term is inevitably busy and, we hope, more recognisable than last year. We hope to once again have a Christmas production to which we can invite you, and we hope to visit Petworth House for their seasonal Christmas party. This is a special honour which Year 1 have enjoyed for many years.

Homework:

Please read with your child as much as possible. The children will be issued with a reading book chosen for their stage of development. They are also able to choose a library book weekly, which may be more suitable to read to them or to be shared in a more collaborative way. Please make a note of any reading that your child carries out at home.

The "Author of the Fortnight" is displayed on the classroom door. This is a special challenge for the children. We are encouraging them to find, read and share a book by this author within the fortnight. Doing this can earn them "book bucks" which can be redeemed at the end of term for small rewards.

As usual we are working hard on developing independence as the children move up the school. We ask that children are left at the classroom gate so they can come and put away their own belongings on their own. If you need to talk to me, or Mrs Groves, do pop a note in the bookbag and we will be happy to make an appointment. Parents Evenings will be in November.

Please do keep an eye on the blog (links are found on the school website) for learning updates.

Thank you for your support,

Kind regards,

Mrs Wiggs and Mrs Durrant

Important reminders:

Miss Lenarth will be covering Mrs Wiggs PPA on a Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs Groves teaches Ash Class on a Friday.

We do a lot of our learning outside, so please make sure children have a named coat at school once Autumn sets in.

P.E. sessions are Wednesday and Thursday. Thursday sessions will be Outdoor Learning/Forest School so please bring in a puddle suit and wellies, or clothing suitable for messy learning.