

# Year 2 Ash and Birch Newsletter – Spring 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break and we would like to wish you a very happy new year! The following is an overview of our learning this half term. Please do have a look on the website at our chronology for further details.

Our big question this term is ‘What are some of the changes that have happened in London?’ We will be making links to this throughout all of our teaching when appropriate.

In **English**, we will begin by reading ‘The Story Machine’ where our focus will be writing instructions for our own imaginary machines. We will also be exploring extracts from the diary of Samuel Pepys and writing our own historical recounts of the Great Fire of London from Pepys’ perspective.

Please continue to **read** with your child every day for at least 15 minutes and discuss what has happened in the text to ensure that your child can show understanding and develop their vocabulary. Your child has been given a reading book and library book to take home and will have their books updated on Bug Club. Please note that **Birch Class** reading books are changed on **Tuesdays** and Birch Class library books are changed on **Wednesdays**. **Ash Class** reading books are changed throughout the week so please ensure your child brings their reading book and reading record every day. **Ash Class** library books are changed on **Thursdays**.

The Great Fire of London will also be the focus of our **History** topic. We will learn how to place events and objects on a timeline and how our lives are different than the people from the past.

Our first **Maths** focus this half term will be multiplication and division before moving on to shape and fractions. As always, we will be practising our problem solving and reasoning skills to make sure that the children can apply the mathematical skills we are learning to solve real-life problems.

In **Science**, our topic will be Living things and their habitats. We will find out that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants.



In **Music**, the children will continue their drumming lessons on a Tuesday. Our in-class learning will focus on two units, 'Toys' and 'Storytime', which will explore keeping a steady beat and combining sounds to tell a story.

Our big question in **Religious Education** this term is: *Why are they having a party?* In this unit, we will explore the different Jewish festivals.

Please note P.E. is on **Mondays** and swimming is on **Tuesdays**. Please ensure your child has the correct kit on these days. We will be focusing on Dance and spinning, turning and twisting in Gymnastics.

In **Computing**, we will be learning about Online Safety and how to be kind online. We will also be exploring how to make music.

Our **PSHE** topic will be focused on our dreams and goals.

Our **DT** topic will be focused on designing a vehicle.

#### Key information:

- This term's spelling homework has been given to your child. Spelling tests will remain on Tuesdays.
- Additional (optional) homework is given on Wednesdays and needs to be returned on Mondays. Please fill in the reply slip and return it to school if you would like your child to receive the optional homework.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further with a member of the team, we will be available each day after dismissing the children. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Naidoo, Mrs. Rethon and Mr. George



I would like my child \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the extra, optional homework every week.

I do not want my child to receive the extra, optional homework.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian)

