



Ashlands
Church of England
Primary School

Love of Learning, Love of Life, Love of One Another



Headteacher: Miss Nicola Ball
Chair of Governors: Mr David Harvey

Welcome Back to the Summer Term!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We are so excited to begin our final term of the year. As we look forward to (hopefully) some sunnier days, we have an incredible curriculum planned for both our Reception and Year 1 learners in **Sweet Chestnut Class**.

Sun Safety & Hydration

As the weather warms up, please ensure your child has **sun cream applied before school**.

- **Sun Hats:** Please bring a named sun hat for outdoor play.
- **No Sunglasses:** For safety reasons, we ask that children do not bring sunglasses as they can cause injuries during active play.
- **Water:** Children have access to their water bottles all day; please ensure they bring a full, named bottle every morning.

Class Expectations & Transitions

This term is all about **independence**. We will be encouraging the children to take more responsibility for their belongings and show their learning in their own unique ways. The latter half of the term will focus heavily on **transitioning into Year 1 and 2**, ensuring they feel confident and ready for the move.

Reminder: Please ensure your child brings their **book bag, reading book, and reading log** to school every single day.

What We Are Learning

We have a packed schedule with lots of fun things to look forward to!

- **Reception:** Our focus is '**Modes of transport and The Seaside**'. We will be exploring different ways to travel and comparing the seaside of the past with the present.
- **Year 1:** The children will be budding scientists as they explore **Plants**. We will also be heading on a virtual adventure to learn all about the vibrant culture and geography of **Jamaica**.

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We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

- **Design & Technology (DT):** Our Year 1s will be getting busy in the kitchen, designing and making their own **healthy fruit snacks!**
- **Literacy:** Our focus book for the whole class is 'Emily Brown and The Thing', which will inspire some wonderful creative writing.
- **Maths:** We are exploring **Numbers beyond 10** using creative, hands-on methods while revisiting our core number skills.

How can you help?

- Helping your child to write phonetically plausible words and sentences
- Encouraging them to halve, double and share objects
- Practice number bonds to 5 and some bonds to 10

Useful Websites

- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk> Contains lots of fun maths games
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/breakthruChris> Contains lots of short videos to help you revise different phonemes with your child and children really enjoy using them to enhance their learning.
- http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html Various games to choose from.
- <http://www.ictgames.co.uk/> For both math and English it has a range of fun interactive activities.

The Importance of Reading

Reading at home is vital to your child's progression. Reading with your child and signing/making comments in their reading book at least 4 times per week will help support their learning journey. To help us manage books effectively in class, please ensure you are **recording all reading at home in their reading logs.**

When returning books, please help your child use the correct system:

- **"I Need a Change":** Place the book here if your child has finished and is ready for something new.
- **"I Am Still Reading":** Place the book here if they are still working through their "three reads" and aren't finished yet.

Swimming, PE, and Forest school

We have a very active term ahead! Please take note of the following days:

- **Monday PE**
- **Forest school **** DAY CHANGE**** Wednesdays**
Please note KS! Have a specialist singing teacher on Thursday afternoons this term so we will be going to forest school on Wednesdays.
- **Tuesdays Swimming** continues on 28th April and 5th May, with our final session on 12th May.

As always, our door is open. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the Sweet Chestnut team.

Warm regards,

The Sweet Chestnut Class Team