



Newbottle and Charlton CEVA Primary School

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Headteacher- Mr Peter Smith

Ash Class Newsletter Spring 2024

Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and the children have enjoyed the festive period and we wish you a happy new year. We are very grateful for all the Christmas wishes, cards and gifts that we received.

We have already had such an exciting start to the term with our Epiphany service at church, our trip to Peterborough Cathedral and a visit from the Life Education Space to teach us all about our body.

Curriculum and Learning

Just as last term, although Year 1 and 2 are all together as one class, there are times when the children are separated into year groups to ensure that the curriculum is being taught effectively and the children are covering all that they should. This is the case for maths, phonics, spelling and grammar. These subjects will be planned by us but may be delivered by either ourselves or Mrs Bray. All other subjects will be taught together but differentiated and the children supported as needed.

We have already started our new history topic 'Toys' where we will be adventuring through time by investigating different toys and asking the question, '*how have toys changed?*'. We will look at the toys that the children play with, as well as the toys that you and your parents played with as children and make comparisons.

After half term, we will be asking the question, '*What is the weather like in the UK?*'. We will look at the seasons and weather, learn to use compass directions and directional language and explore how people prepare for the weather in different parts of the UK.

English- As writers, we will begin with story writing based on the traditional tale 'Pinocchio'. As well as story sequencing, the children will look at writing in the past tense and using adjectives to make their writing more detailed and exciting. As reading and story time are such important parts of KS1, we will look at various exciting picture books based on toys and the weather.

Computing: we will be looking at programming robotics using beebots and Vex123. After that, we will move on to creating media digital painting.

Art and DT: we will begin by looking at our DT topic of Textiles where we will be making puppets and then move on to our art topic 3D Paper Play.

Maths- As mathematicians, Year 1 will be securing and developing their understanding of number and place value before moving on to addition and subtraction. Year 2 will be learning about multiplication and division. The children will also explore length and height, mass and capacity, and position and direction.

RE- This term we will be asking the question, '*what makes some places sacred to believers?*' before moving on to ask '*Why does Ester matter to Christians?*' in term 4.

PSHE: we will focus on how to keep ourselves safe before moving on to exploring our rights and responsibilities next term.

Science- As scientists, we will be investigating the life cycles of humans, chickens, butterflies and frogs.

PE: our PE days this term will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, please ensure PE kits are left at school throughout the week as this may change as our timetables adapts to events. We are on hand to support the children but please do make sure all clothing (both school uniform and PE kits) are labelled clearly as the children are encouraged to be as independent as possible with changing their clothes.

From next week, we are excited to have Miss England working with us on Wednesdays for our PE sessions. This term, the children will learn the coordination and skill involved in gym. Next half term they will have the opportunity to develop those skills during dance.

The children will need footwear suitable for sports outside and warmer outer clothing as the weather is colder.

Homework

Being in Ash Class is a magical time where the children transition from learning the cognitions of how to read to developing a love of reading that will set them up for life! We are so keen to develop this passion so please know how much we value the time that you are able to spend on snuggling up and reading to your child.

We would also like the children to read their school reading book to someone at home at least three times each week. Repeating the book will develop the children's confidence and fluency and will provide opportunity for them to practise differing their tone and adding expression when reading aloud.

We will also set regular Sumdog and Spelling Shed work online - Attached is the sheet of spellings they practise in school if you would like to do this offline. Some of you already have the maths journals so you can carry on completing.

We are really looking forward to our learning this term and please know that our door is always open for you to come and discuss any queries or concerns.

Kind regards,

Ms Rowe and Mrs Hetherington