



Newbottle and Charlton CEVA Primary School

Let all that you do be done in Love; Every person matters, every moment counts
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Ash Class Curriculum letter Spring 2025

Friday 17th January 2025

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. It really means a lot to receive such generosity and kindness.

We have already had such an exciting start to the term with our Epiphany service at church, a music afternoon in which we created superhero theme tunes and a visit from the Life Education Space to teach us all about our body and emotions.

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 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, guided reading, spelling and grammar. These subjects will be planned by us but may be delivered by either ourselves, Mrs Lovesay-Bonham, Mrs Marsella-Brookes 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 'schools' where we will be adventuring through time by investigating and asking the question, '*how were schools different in the past?*'. We will look at photographs of our school and interview Mrs Marsella-Brookes to discover the changes that have occurred over the years. We will also be going to the Black Country Living museum to learn about schools in the past and take part in a 1911 lesson- see separate letter.

After half term, we will be asking the question, '*What is it like to live in Shanghai?*'. During this topic, we will look at contrasts and make comparisons between locations, including looking at weather typically experienced.

English- we have already had some exciting news; a missing alien called 'Beegu' who is lost in our school! During this unit we will think about character description, imperative verbs and story retelling. After that we will be making a fact file about Octopuses. During the following term we will write our own version of the story 'Pig the Pug' before moving on to looking at diary entries before Easter. As reading and story time are such important parts of KS1, we will look at various exciting picture books based on schools and the seasons.

Computing: we will be exploring how music can be created using technology.

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 temperature.

PSHE: we will focus on how to keep ourselves safe which include- Year 1 Recognising the importance of sleep, understand that medicines can sometimes make people feel better. Year 2- Secrets and surprises, medicines and hygiene routines.

Before moving onto our topic of 'Rights and Respect' where children will learn about looking after the environment, learning about looking after money and impulsive behaviour.

Art and DT: we will begin by looking at our art topic 'colour splash' where we will be colour mixing and looking at the artist Clarice Cliff. Then we'll move on to our DT topic looking at cooking methods during our Healthy Eating and Nutrition topic.

Science- we will begin this term by investigating the weather and the changing seasons. Next term we will look at animals, including humans

PE: This term, the children will focus on Outdoor Adventurous Activities, which highlight the need for children to explore the outdoors and develop a range of physical skills they might not be able to indoors.

Our PE days this term will be on Mondays and Tuesdays. 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.

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 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. Children need to bring this book, as well as their yellow reading journal, to school every day. They can also bring home a 'reading for pleasure' book from our class or school library, if they wish. Don't forget to record reads in the yellow reading journal and also tick off the Reading Miles Global Challenge!

You will find weekly homework on Sumdog for maths and spelling, grammar and punctuation. The children also have their own individual word lists to learn the spellings of, over the term. See Mr Pitts-Smith's video if you are unsure what to do.

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,

Mrs Hetherington and Miss Hirst