



## Autumn Term Newsletter 1 – Friday 25th October 2024



Dear Parent/Carers,

What a wonderful start to a new year! This half term has been packed with fantastic learning, amazing new enrichment ventures and super assemblies lead by our parent guest speakers. The school is looking vibrant and revitalised. All display boards are riddled with colour and information, which provoke thought and curiosity towards are learning. Subsequently, it highlights the true pride that we all share for creating an enticing and dynamic school.

### School Leaders

Children were encouraged to write letters of application to Mrs Gibbons, if they wanted to become part of the School's Leadership Team, House Captain, Worship Leader or Librarian. It was great to see such enthusiasm and interest in all the roles. We have already held one Pupil Leadership meeting, which sparked much thought and provoked discussion amongst the team upon their hopes and ideas for this year.



### House System

We have embarked upon a new reward system, incorporating house points and local famous properties: Barrington, Lytes Cary, Montacute and Stourhead. All children have been allocated a House, which correlates with their colour represented during Sports Day. House points are readily distributed for good manners, adhering to the school rules (Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful), exceptional effort, determination and perseverance. House points are collated on a Friday afternoon by the House Captains and shared in our Celebration Assembly. All points are visible upon the House Information Board, situated in the hall.

**House Captains**



**Worship leaders**



**School Librarians**



## **Careers, professions and people within our community**

Assemblies lead by parents have proven a super success this half term. I would like to thank everyone who has participated and enabled the children to discover a world of professional diversity. The time you have given has been greatly appreciated and the opportunities, which await them in the wider world are endless. There is still time to volunteer if you wish... just contact the school office with a suggested Monday date. Assemblies run from 2.45pm.



## **Welcome Assembly and Harvest Festival**

Two fantastic occasions of celebration! It is always amazing to see how quickly our Early Years cohort settle and flourish within their new learning environment. Watching the Year 6 children welcome, support and encourage their little 'buddies' is simply a joy and a true strength of our caring learners. The Early Years children were blessed this year as they received their very own bible, to take home and treasure.

It was brilliant to see so many faces packed into the church for our Harvest Festival this year. All of the children relished sharing their artwork and information regarding the importance of Harvest around the world. We even had a special poem written and read with great confidence by Lara Worledge. Our singing resonated throughout the church... we were even fortunate enough to have Hilary play the organ!

Thank you for all your kind donations, which were greatly received by Martock Food Bank.

## Learning in Early Years



## Cross Country

Great to see such a huge turnout for the Cross Country events this term. A massive thank you to Miss Cockram for her endless support, organisation and encouragement of all children who participate. Our sportsmanship and results as a school are consistently impressive!

## Art in Neptune

A wonderfully creative use of chalk and oil pastels which show skill, precision and imagination.





## PTA

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our marvellous PTA for all their hard work, dedication and contribution to our school community. Their support and efforts are simply brilliant and further embellish children's experiences at Ash. The book fair proved incredibly popular and a successful adage to Parent's Evening. I hope everyone had a gruesomely ghoulish time at the Halloween disco and ignited their frightfully fun feelings, which continued over the half term holidays.

## Proud winners of our Book Raffle



## **Book share afternoon**

Each and every one of our children have worked so hard this term. It was therefore a delight for them to be able to share and show true pride in all they have achieved. Thank you to everyone who attended.



## **Welcome**

We are pleased to have Mr Sampson-Barnes joining Ash, as a full-time member of staff for the remainder of the year. His role will predominantly be with Saturn class; however he will be branching out to deliver Science within KS2.

## Enrichment afternoons



Enrichment afternoons have been initiated and firmly established this half term, all thanks to the wonderful ingenuity and imaginative powers of Mrs Fullerton and Mrs Trenchard. Stupendous science and creative cookery have been thoroughly enjoyed by all the Year three and four children. Other year groups will experience the Friday afternoon enrichment, throughout the Spring Term.



## Forest School

How fortunate we are to be surrounded by a spectacular landscape, privileged to be encompassed by such amazing school grounds and thankful for the thoughtful and bespoke Forest School sessions Sowenna delivers, to Year 1, 2, 3 and 4. The children love exploring the outdoors, especially when an unsuspecting hammock appears from nowhere! Or they are blindfolded and nervously follow a guide rope, relying only upon their senses to navigate. We are also rather pleased with our new Polytunnel, all set for growing in the Spring. How exciting!

## School Prayer



## Reflection and Wednesday Worship Assemblies

Every Wednesday, we are fortunate enough to have a selection of external visitors, who deliver our bible led assemblies. The children enjoy the opportunity to act out stories from the bible, usually guided and encouraged by our wonderful Worship Leaders. The theme for Autumn explores trust and thankfulness. Within class, the children have also explored the meaning behind our school prayer.

## Dates to remember

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Wear Odd Socks

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Year Six Mock Trial at Perrott Hill School

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Whole school non-uniform for Children in Need (£1 donation)

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Wreath Making PTA Evening Event

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Reception/KS1 Christmas Performance 2.00 pm start

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Christmas Performance 6.00pm start

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm – Christmas Church Service

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Party Day / Father Christmas / Disco

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – INSET DAY

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Children return

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Year Five and Six London Theatre Visit.