



Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a fantastic Summer holiday and we're looking forward to seeing you all in person at last!

Our value for this term is Thankfulness and we begin the year with a whole-school topic, 'Life in all its Fullness.' Our English lessons will focus on the Charlie Macksey book 'The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse'. The children will work on descriptive writing, as well as how to plan and edit their written work and use a dictionary and thesaurus effectively. In Maths, we will be focusing on Place Value and Addition & Subtraction. Our topic work will focus on the Geography and History of Ashton Keynes. In Science we will study areas of the Year 2 curriculum that the children wouldn't have covered in the Summer term.

As a reminder, Mrs Smith will be teaching all day Monday and Tuesday, and on a Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Voss will be teaching on Wednesday mornings, and all day on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Thomas is our class Teaching Assistant, who will be in class every morning. We will also be welcoming Miss Froggatt back to AKPS until December for her final teaching placement before she qualifies next Summer.

As it will be tricky to speak to us at the start or end of the school day, please email both of us if you need to speak with us: j.smith@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk and l.voss@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk. We will aim to reply to you during the school day.

Home Learning

You will receive a Home Learning brochure with English tasks until half term. These tasks will also be posted on Showbie (the KS2 learning platform) and responses should be posted online. Maths tasks will be set each week, linked to our learning in school and initially will be sent home in a Maths Home Learning book. We will talk through the tasks with the children in school on **Thursdays**. Please submit English homework on Showbie by **Tuesday morning** and bring Maths books into school on **Tuesdays** to allow time for us to respond with feedback. If you need support logging in to Showbie, please email us.

Spellings

Mrs Smith will be testing children on weekly spellings every **Monday** from 14th September. The spellings will be posted on Showbie each week and will be linked to Y2 and Y3 spelling patterns.

Reading

We will be checking children's reading records every morning when they arrive at school. Our expectation is that children read a small amount each day: 15-20 minutes is fine. Even if your child is already a free reader, it is really beneficial for them to read to an adult to support with unknown vocabulary and discuss what's happened in the text. We expect every child to record their daily reading, even if it's just a short note, so that we can keep track of their progress. Please support them in completing this task each day.

Cracking Times Tables

We will be continuing with Cracking Times Tables that the class began in Y2 and the children will be tested in school every **Friday** from 18th September. Do encourage the use of **www.timestables.com** to learn the facts and **Times Tables Rock Stars** to practise multiplication and division facts with your child.

General Reminders...

PE: For the Autumn term, PE will be on **Tuesday mornings** and **Thursday mornings**. Children will need to wear their kit to school on these days, so please make sure they are suitably dressed for both outdoor play and indoor PE e.g. shorts & t-shirt with tracksuit on top.

Forest School sessions: Tuesday 15th September and Tuesday 13th October.

Please add these dates to your calendar so your child remembers their kit!