**Week Beginning- Autumn 2017, week 3, 18.9.17**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ash and Beech class. We hope you had a lovely summer break and look forward to working in partnership with you and your child over the next year. Each week we will be sending home a ‘Letter to Parents’ to let you know what we will be doing. This will provide you with a good prompt when talking with your child about their day as well as support your child in their learning. If you have provided the school with an e-mail address, you will receive this letter every Monday once Parent Mail is set up. Alternatively you can also find this on our classroom windows (once you have access through our outside classroom doors). We will send you a paper copy for the next few weeks until Parents Mail is working.

This term we will be basing some of our learning around ‘The Power of Reading books’ and the children’s interests. The first book we will be looking at is Bedtime for Monsters. However, this week we are primarily focusing on settling the children in to school, getting to know their environment and making new friends.

All your child’s achievements will be recorded - which may include work they have done either with an adult or independently, observations, photographs or group comment sheets. We also really value what they do at home and would like this to be an important part of your child’s learning journal. Please ask for a ‘wow’ sheet so you can make comments about what your child has done at home e.g. they rode their bike without stabilisers; recognised a number on a bus; continued a string of rhyming words etc. These will then be stuck into the journals.

In the next couple of weeks we will carrying out a phonics assessment. Until your children are completely secure recognising all their single letter sounds and are blending independently, we will not be sending graded phonics books home – but will encourage them to take a story book home from the book corner for you to share with them to develop their language skills.  
  
Please be aware that there are two children in Reception with an allergy to fish. Please be aware of this when packing your children’s lunch boxes.

We hope you enjoy your time in Ash and Beech and should you have any concerns, please feel free to come in and talk to us.

Many Thanks for your help and support

The Early Years Team