



Swifts Class

Autumn Newsletter

Exploring, Discovering, Achieving

Hello and welcome to the new academic year. We hope you all had a lovely summer break! Here in Swifts Class we are all looking forward to starting a new school journey with you and your child. We can't wait to welcome back both some of our familiar faces and our new starters here at Ashgate School.

Introducing the Team

The teachers in Swifts Class are Sam and Fay. Sam will be leading in class from Monday to Wednesday and Fay will be leading on Thursdays and Fridays. Sam is a trainee teacher who will be completing his apprenticeship through Coventry University over the course of the next two academic years. Fay is an experienced early years teacher who will be mentoring him throughout. Together we hope to ensure that your child receives the best possible education over the next year and that they thrive and enjoy their time with us in Swifts Class.

The teaching assistants in Swifts are Celia (TA3) and Lily and Iona (TA1s.) Our lunchtime support assistant is Katie.

Our Class Ethos

Please find attached a copy of our class ethos. In Swifts class we will always strive to provide your child with a fun and engaging educational environment that takes into account their individual needs and learning styles. We value full collaboration with parents and carers and we invite you to be a part of your child's learning.

Home/School Communication

This is a very important part of your child's education and we hope that you will always feel that there is an open line of communication between the class team and yourselves. We will be sending out letters shortly with links for you to join the Class Dojo. This is an online platform through which the class team can communicate directly with you, sharing information about your child's day including photos and any messages we may have for you. We will also send a physical diary home with your child through which you may leave us messages if you prefer. This might be how they have slept, what they have been doing at the weekend, anything you would like to know from us etc. We will always seek to share as much information as we can with you so that you truly feel informed of your child's progress and a part of their education.



Autumn Newsletter

Page 2



Home/School Communication (cont.)

You can also speak to a member of the class team if you need to by calling the school on 0161 3595322 and asking to speak to Swifts class. Between 8.30 and 9am or from 15.00 to 16.00 are preferred times as we will be teaching and leading activities the rest of the day. You can also email Fay or Sam at these email addresses:

F.Mill@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

S.Gore@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

Things to Provide

As our children are all sensory learners and we will all definitely be getting messy at some point, it would be very helpful if you could provide the following:

- Waterproof outerwear/coveralls for outside play, as we do forest school in all weathers
- Wellies for wet play
- Spare clothes to change into when needed, including socks and tops (we will return soiled & wet/messy items to you bagged up and ready to wash)
- Pads and/or pullups for their changing needs

Our topics for Autumn

This term the Swifts topic will be toys. We will be exploring the topic through our curriculum areas of communication, maths and cognition, physical development and knowledge and understanding of the world. If you would like to send in photos of your child's favourite toys it would be lovely to include these in their learning this term.

We also focus throughout the year on social skills and life skills, helping your child to build the confidence they need to form strong peer relationships and improve their independence.



Class Fund

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 a week towards our class fund. This money goes towards resources for all of Swifts class to use in sensory play and cookery activities.

Thanks for your support and understanding!

The Swifts Team