

Year 4 – Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Year 4 Class Teacher at All Souls'. I am looking forward to teaching, supporting and helping to develop this fantastic class of children over the coming school year. Everyone in the class has made a strong start to Year 4 and the children are beginning to come to terms with the higher expectations that Year 4 holds. As firmly established Key Stage 2 pupils, Year 4 are now role models for many children throughout school and I am confident that they can set a great example.

Welcome back Miss Quinn!

I would also like to take this chance to welcome Miss Quinn back to All Souls' following her maternity leave. Miss Quinn will be working full-time in Year 4 this year and is also very much looking forward to getting to know the class even better. Mrs Hands has also returned to All Souls' this year and will be teaching Year 4, with the help of Miss Quinn on Mondays.

Key information:

The Year 4 timetable is a busy one and for each child to get everything that they can out of it, it is really important that they complete and take part in the following:

Homework – Weekly homework will be set on **Wednesdays and collected in on Mondays**. I see homework as a great opportunity for children to practise and embed the skills and knowledge that they are learning at school. Homework tasks will therefore usually be based on the learning that has taken place that week or in previous weeks. Each child has a homework book in which to complete their work.

Reading – Developing your child's reading is vital to their education and will benefit them greatly this year. This is why all pupils are expected to read for around 15 minutes every day outside of school. To monitor your child's progress in reading, their reading record should be signed and kept up to date. **Reading Records will be checked every Wednesday**. Encouraging a love of reading will make these 15 minutes, and more, fly by. Some children will have books from our reading scheme that are chosen specially to take your child's reading to the next level. However, some children may be 'free readers' and can therefore read anything appropriate that interests them. So if they prefer to read the *Sunday Telegraph* or *Financial Times* instead of Roald Dahl or Michael Morpurgo, then by all means encourage this!

Spelling – Every **Friday** Year 4 will be tested on their spelling. Children will be given a list of words to take home and practise.

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P.E. – Year 4 will have P.E. on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. It is therefore important that their kit is in school on these days. Mr Youson and Mr Cooke have planned an exciting range of sports and activities covering the P.E. National Curriculum to be delivered throughout the school year, and I am looking forward to getting involved with these. We are beginning the P.E. curriculum with Handball and Orienteering. Orienteering will take place outside so please make sure that your child had the appropriate kit.

Permission letters – If you have not already completed and returned a **'Photo Permission'** and **'School Trip Permission'** letter, please can you do this as soon as possible so that the office can keep their records up to date. Also, many of you have already signed children up for **school clubs**, if you have not yet done this and would like to, please return the form as soon as possible as some clubs have limited availability. All Souls' offers a great range of extra-curricular opportunities and I think it would be great to see Year 4 take full advantage of this.

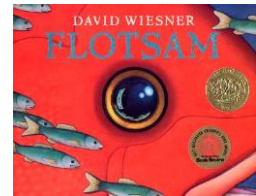
Summary of key information

<u>Day</u>	<u>Info</u>
Monday	P.E. kit (Handball)
Wednesday	Homework set and handed in Reading record (signed) P.E. Kit (Orienteering)
Friday	Spelling test
N/A	Please return permission letters as soon as possible

Topics:

English

For the first few weeks of term we will be focussing on the book 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner, the story of a boy who comes across a washed-up underwater camera containing magical secrets of the sea. The story will also cross over into our art work and ICT through using photography.



Maths

thousands	hundreds	tens	ones
1	2	4	7
1,000	200	40	7

The class will begin Year 4 maths by focussing on the 'place value' of numbers, helping them to understand the meaning and value of numbers and preparing them for the challenge of Year 4 maths. Now in Year 4, it is even more important that your child's times tables knowledge is secure and regularly tested. This will help them a lot this year, they will practice and be assessed regularly at school, but any extra practise they can have at home would be of great benefit!

Science

Year 4 have already impressed me and Miss Quinn with their knowledge of our science topic 'Animals including humans'. Over the



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coming weeks we will look closely at the digestive system (not literally), different types of teeth and different food chains.

Dates for the diary:

15th September – Year 3 and 4 Class Mass, parents and carers are more than welcome to attend.

11th November - Year 4 will be *wowing* the school with their Class Assembly on Wednesday 11th November. The focus of the assembly will be based on Remembrance Day, commemorating the end of the First World War.

20th November - As part of the ongoing sacramental support for both you and your child, Fr Michael and the Parish catechists would like to invite those children who received their First Holy Communion last year and their parents to a 'Reunion Meeting' 6pm Monday 20th November in the Parish Room. More information will follow nearer the time.

24th November – Year 4 Penance Service, parents and carers are more than welcome to attend.

2015 Calendar

Overall, there is a lot ahead of us, and I cannot wait for it to come. I am truly looking forward to teaching your children over the coming year and helping and supporting them as much as I can.

Many thanks,

John Marsh