



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Hello and welcome to the new school year! I hope you all had wonderful summer holidays (although they already seem so long ago!) I have had the opportunity to meet quite a few of you at the end of the school day but if I have not yet had the chance to speak to you, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big hello and express how much I am looking forward to working with such a lovely class for the upcoming year. I am not alone in being a newcomer to All Soul's in our classroom; I am also pleased to welcome Mason to our class. We are doing our very best to help him settle in and become a part of our school community. Our Teaching Assistants this year are Miss Quinn, who will be working with our class full time, and Miss McGuinn and Miss Kelleher, who will be with us for the mornings. Within this newsletter we hope to give you an insight into the term ahead as well as begin to answer some of the questions that you may have.

Year 5 Expectations

As your child moves up into Year 5 and into the upper end of Key Stage 2, the expectations of their appearance, behaviour and work increases as they become role models for the younger children in the school. We have drawn up a contract as a class and I expect that all children endeavour to uphold their side of the contract at all times. This includes arriving at school on time, wearing full school uniform, being conscientious, hardworking and always trying their best. Within the classroom and throughout the school, the children will be awarded jobs and responsibilities that they are expected to complete sensibly and autonomously. Furthermore, we ask that all children complete each piece of work to the best of their ability and organise it clearly and neatly, in accordance with our school policy for presentation.

Autumn Term Curriculum

Literacy - we will first be studying a book titled "The Red Tree" (by Shaun Tan) where our focus will lie on consolidating our punctuation, grammar and comprehension skills. We will then move on to studying non-chronological reports, formal letter writing and newspaper reports before half term. After the half term break we will move on to poetry.

Numeracy – we will first be consolidating our understanding of the mathematical concepts within the KS2 framework, ensuring that children are secure with their understanding of place value, the four operations and measure. We will then move on to exploring angles and shape after the half term break.

Science – we have recently begun our topic on Earth and space (my personal favourite!) and this will run up until half term. The children have already enjoyed acting out the planets orbiting the sun and predicting the relative sizes of the Earth and the moon in comparison to the sun; I think we were all shocked at just how big the sun was! After half term we will begin our topic on materials and their properties which will take us up until Christmas.

RE – we will first be learning about Creation and Miracles in RE. Our class mass is 20th October (parents and carers welcome).

PE –this term our lessons will take place on a Tuesday (dance) and a Friday (outdoor adventure). Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on these days and ensure that they also have outdoor clothing (tracksuit/trainers) as we move into the winter months. Earrings are not permitted to be worn on PE days.

Homework

Your child will receive their homework on a Friday each week and this should be completed and returned to school by the following Wednesday. They will receive Literacy, Numeracy and one other piece of homework each week and these will build on and extend the knowledge and skills that we have been learning in class.

Reading

In addition to their weekly homework, your child should also be reading at home on a (almost) daily basis. The expectation for Year 5 is that they read for a minimum of 15 minutes 5 times a week. They have been provided with a reading record which should be completed daily, detailing what they are reading and with whom. I ask for your support in encouraging and monitoring your child's reading and that you sign their record each week to confirm that what is recorded is a true record (even if it says that they have not read anything!) Please ensure that this reading record is brought into school each Monday so that it can be checked.

Spelling

Your child will be given 12 spellings each week which they are expected to practise at home. They will receive their spellings on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday. It is important that their spelling books are in school with them at all times as they will also have opportunities to practise their spellings during school hours.

Residential Trip

As you may be aware, Year 5 take part in a residential trip to Alton Castle each year. This year, the trip will take place on the 7th-9th March. Further information regarding this will be received in due course. Should you have any concerns in the meantime, please let us know.

A message from Miss Frearson

I have been thrilled at the way our year has begun so far; you really are the parents of a truly fantastic group of individuals with a diverse range of talents and personality traits. I am thoroughly looking forward to the upcoming months and for working closely with you. I will see you all at the open evening in October but should you have any questions or concerns (or just simply want to say hello!) do not hesitate to come into school to discuss them.

Kind regards,

Lucy Frearson