



## Reception

### Autumn Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents,

First of all, a very warm welcome to everyone. We are really looking forward to returning to a more normal school year.

We are delighted at how well the children have settled into our Reception class and are looking forward to working with you throughout the year. For some of you, this will be the continuation of a journey which began in All Sorts or Nursery; for others it is the beginning of what we are sure will be a long and positive relationship.

#### Getting to know you

We will be spending the first few weeks getting to know the children, building positive relationships, getting them used to our daily routines and making them feel safe and secure. This is particularly important considering these more recent challenging times. We will be using our class outdoor area, the playground and our Forest School to ensure the children receive lots of outdoor learning too. Children will then be assessed so that we can move them forward with their learning through the year.

#### Literacy

We have started our daily phonic sessions which the children really seem to be enjoying. Each week, children will learn 4 new phonemes (sounds) and each session will start with a recap of the phonemes already taught before introducing their new one for the day. We will read, write and use the phonemes to make simple CVC words. The phonemes we are learning will be added onto the Reception Tapestry site and also the school Reception blog so that you can talk to your child about them.

We are sending home the first nine words of our reading scheme. We will be practising these in school but would be grateful if you could also work on them at home. Their knowledge of these words will be used as a guide to which reading book your child will start on. Your child will bring home a book every Monday which should be returned on the Friday of each week.

A change in our handwriting policy has been made this year and the children in Reception will first learn to form the letter shapes. Once the children can form the letters we will begin to introduce the cursive script. This is to make it a smoother journey for them. Please encourage your child to use lower case letters when writing their name with the initial letter only a capital.

#### General information

We would like to take this opportunity to inform/remind you of some essentials:

- Reception will be having PE/dance with Jade on Tuesday Morning. We will be doing this in our PE kits so please ensure your child has their PE kit in a named bag on their peg.
- Earrings and necklaces are not allowed in school.
- To help with replacing broken toys and equipment and to enable us to provide more exciting opportunities to learn, we kindly ask for a contribution from our Reception parents of £1 per week. The collection pot will be on the bench outside Reception during morning drop off should you wish to contribute.

- Children should arrive between 8.30-9.00am and be collected at 3.15pm. Please notify the school office if your child is going to be absent due to illness.
- You may be wondering about the lack of stickers coming home, particularly if you have had children in previous Reception classes. We now have a sticker chart system working in Reception. The children all have their own sheet with boxes to place stickers. On completion of their sheet they will get to pick a prize from the box.

### **Dates for your diary**

Reception Welcome Mass – 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Parents evening by Zoom – 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> October

Half term – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Cinema visit – 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Theatre visit -13<sup>th</sup> December

If you have anything you would like to discuss with us, please feel free to come and talk to us across the fence at the beginning or end of the day or alternatively send me an email: [sharon.jilks@allsoulsschool.co.uk](mailto:sharon.jilks@allsoulsschool.co.uk)

We would like to thank you in advance for your support and cooperation and are very much look forward to working with you and your child.

**The Reception Team**

**Mrs Jilks, Mrs Elkins, Mrs Swain and Miss Greenway**