



Welcome to Reception!

It has been lovely to welcome your children into school. They all look so smart! They have impressed us with how well they have settled and are showing us that they are very much ready to learn! We are looking forward to getting to know your child and working with you in the year ahead.

This term, once our Baseline Assessments are completed, our first topic will be 'All Are Welcome'. Other topics will include 'Patterns', 'Autumn' and 'Whatever Next'. In RE, our topics will be Creation, People Who Care For Us, Baptism and Advent.

Prime Areas		
Personal and Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development
This is a focus area for the first half term. We will be working on ensuring that the children feel happy and secure in the setting. We will explore the environment and meet the different adults who make up our school community. The children will be developing the confidence to speak to their peers and familiar adults and will be making new friends.	Initially, we will assess the children's language skills. We can then support where necessary. We will be encouraging the children to speak in sentences, share their news and ask for help. As well as listening and responding to ideas expressed by others, the children will also be encouraged to answer 'how' and 'why' questions about what we experience and learn through our topics.	We will begin to practise our fine motor skills, cutting, sticking, rolling and stretching. We do this by using Lego, play dough, threading, sand, marbles, building and model making materials. This will help us to hold a pencil and begin to use it to write letters and then words.

Other areas			
Literacy	Maths	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
This term starts our phonics sessions. The children will be introduced to four phonemes (sounds) during the week and will consolidate on Friday. We will learn how to write the phonemes as they are taught. We will do class reading as part of the session. The children will also have a reading book to share at home.	This term, we will begin to explore numbers. We will initially be focussing on sorting and patterns. We will then learn in depth all about numbers 1-5 and will focus on subitising and composition of number. We will also explore shapes.	We will be looking at the changing seasons and exploring Creation and our beautiful world. We will also explore 'Space' in our 'Whatever Next' topic.	We will be producing different artwork, exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques. In music sessions, we will explore instruments and how they work and will learn new songs and rhymes.

Tapestry

Your child's learning journal will be on Tapestry. This will be used for observations and learning and also for updates and key information. It is a really useful tool. If you haven't already done so, please complete the permission slip. Once this is done, you will receive access. If you need a replacement, please let us know. If you need any help using it, again please ask. We are more than happy to help. Feel free to upload anything from home for us to see. Maybe you are attending a family celebration, or your child gets a swimming certificate or learning to ride a bike without stabilisers. Whatever it may be, we would love to see it! By doing this, we can celebrate their achievements too 😊

Reminders

- Please can you make sure that all uniform is **labelled with your child's name**.
- Your child will need a book bag that needs to be in school every day.
- Please can you send a labelled water bottle in each day with water only please.
- PE kits will be needed on Tuesday, starting from next week. Please leave the PE kit in a bag on your child's peg.
- In Reception we go outside in all weathers. Please can you leave a pair of wellington boots in school and make sure that your child wears a coat appropriate for the weather.
- We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 per week to help us to enhance our learning and provide your child with more experiences. A box will be left outside the reception classroom during drop off/pick up to leave your donation in, if you are able to. Thank you for your support in this, it really helps.

Dates for your diary

Please see the main school newsletter and website for whole school events and updates that will occur. If you have any difficulty accessing this, please let us know.

Thursday 28th September – Individual and sibling photos

Friday 29th September – Flu vaccinations - Please respond to the email to give or refuse consent by the 17th September.

Thursday 23rd November – Cinema trip

Sunday 5th November – Reception Welcome Mass

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me at
[**michelle.smith@allsoulsschool.co.uk**](mailto:michelle.smith@allsoulsschool.co.uk)

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are very excited for what is to come. It is going to be a wonderful year!

Mrs Smith

Class Teacher

Mrs Elkins

Teaching Assistant