



Year 1 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to school; I hope you have all had a restful break. The first week back at school has been lovely and the children have settled back in fantastically. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all again for the wonderful Christmas cards and gifts - they are so appreciated. Mrs Atwal also passes on her thanks. We feel so privileged to work with such fantastic children and supportive parents. I am extremely proud of all of the children and the progress they are making.

Curriculum

<p><u>Maths</u> Place Value within 20 Addition and Subtraction within 20</p>	<p><u>English</u> Information Text – Fact File Letter Character Description – Fantasy and Real Life Non-Chronological Reports</p>	<p><u>RE</u> Christmas Forgiveness Lent Holy Week</p>	<p><u>Science</u> Animals including Humans Seasonal Changes</p>	<p><u>RSHE</u> Money Clean & Healthy</p>
<p><u>History</u> Who were the greatest explorers?</p>	<p><u>Geography</u> Where do our favourite animals live?</p>	<p><u>Year 1</u></p>	<p><u>Forest School</u> No Forest School until Summer Term</p>	<p><u>Music</u></p>
<p><u>Art</u> Collage: Flora & Fauna</p>	<p><u>DT</u> Buildings</p>		<p><u>Computing</u> Moving a Robot</p>	<p><u>PE</u> (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) Basketball Dance Football Gymnastics</p>

Homework

Reading - Reading with your child is one of the best ways to support their learning across the curriculum. Reading books will be sent out on a Monday and returned on a Monday to be changed, however reading books should always be in school every day. On a Monday your child will also be sent home with their shared reading book from that week's Phonics sessions. Additionally, every 2 weeks the children will choose a different bedtime story which can be read with the children to encourage a love of stories. This book will be above their current reading level and should be shared together. Due to the increased importance of developing reading skill– those children who are not reading at home and having their reading record signed will spend 5 minutes of their break time reading to practise these skills at school.

Whilst we aim to give the children a different book each week there is no log of the books they have had previously. The children usually choose their own book and they are asked to choose one they haven't had previously. However, sometimes the children do choose books they've had before.

Spellings – Spellings are sent home on a Monday to be learnt ready for a test the following Monday. The children are given 5 words to learn from the common exception words list for Year and are also tested on 5 words using their phonics sound of the week.

Numbots – The children should aim to spend 5-10 minutes on Numbots at least 3 times a week. This will enable the children to develop their fluency of number facts.

Writing – Writing homework will begin to be sent home on a Wednesday from the 17th January. This should be returned to school by Monday so that it can be marked ready to send out on Wednesday. This homework will be a writing task which normally involves writing one or two sentences as a response.

How can I help at home?

Maths - Children learn best through repetition of mathematical concepts. This year we will build up our understanding of number initially focusing on numbers to 10, then to 20 in the spring term and working our way up to 100 by the end of the year. I will discuss with you more at our October open evening, however, practising skills such as number bonds to 10, 1 more or 1 less and recognising numbers in different representations (including as words) will support your child with their learning at school.

Here are a few website you could use if you wish to support maths at home:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<https://www.mathsontoast.org.uk/activities-and-resources/>

<https://nrich.maths.org/primary>

English -

Reading - Please see the homework section above for more information. Creating a love of reading can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, allow them to experience different cultures, countries and environments, grow their imagination, boost their wellbeing and have a positive impact on their mental health.

Making up stories – Whilst out walking or in your house make up stories about different objects. To adults a stone is a stone, but to young children there are hundreds of things that stone could be or things that the stone could do. Use this innate imagination to create stories. These do not have to be written down they can be verbal.

Play response and actions games – Games are the best way to involve and excite children. Simple games like Simon Says, Hurrah-Boo! or I Went to the Shops...

Role play and make believe – Role- playing is a great way to introduce new vocabulary and set the children up for real life skills. Playing shops, doctors, hairdressers builds a conversation and allows new words to be added to the children's vocabulary as well as gives the chance to practise conversational skills and answering questions.

Here are a few website you could use if you wish to support English at home:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/learning-to-read>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/words-and-spelling>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zgkw2hv>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

Wider curriculum -

Our class blog will be updated regularly with what we have been learning at school and you will receive a curriculum overview as above for each term. Please encourage your children to discuss what they have learnt and encourage them to share and ask questions about their learning.

One area of focus for Year 1 is to start building your children's independence, encourage them to think about what they need to bring to school each morning, to pass on any letters they need to return to school and to make sure they have all of their belongings before leaving school at the end of the day. Please support them in this by ensuring that all uniform, PE kit, water bottles etc are **clearly named**.

Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school on PE days and that they have the appropriate kit for the weather forecast.

I look forward to speaking with you at our open evening in March. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please send me an email: maddie.corkerry@allsoulsschool.co.uk

Many Thanks,
Mrs Corkerry

Year 1 Class Teacher